

# THE ATHLETIC

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No. 2781.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1881.

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**GUILDHALL LIBRARY.**—The Library Committee of the Corporation of the City of London hereby give notice that this Library will be CLOSED from FRIDAY, the 11th, until TUESDAY, the 15th instant, both Days inclusive. MONCKTON. Guildhall, E.C. 6th February, 1881.

**ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES.**—Professor J. W. JUDD, F.R.S., will commence a Course of Fifty Lectures on GEOLOGY at the Science Schools, South Kensington, on MONDAY NEXT, the 14th inst., at Ten o'clock a.m.; to be continued on every Week day, except Saturday, at the same hour.—Five for Lectures, 4s.; for Practice in Laboratory and Field, 6s. Mr. WASHINGTON W. SMYTH, M.A. F.R.S., will commence a Course of Forty Lectures on MINERALOGY at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street, on MONDAY, the 21st inst., at Twelve o'clock at Noon; to be continued on every succeeding Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Monday, at the same hour.—Fee for the Course, 4s. F. W. RUDLER, Registrar.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,** Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.

**ERNEST PAUER, Esq.,** Principal Professor of the Pianoforte at the National Training School for Music.—First of Two Lectures "On the History of Jewing-Joom Music" (with Musical Illustrations), on THURSDAY NEXT, February 17, at 3 p.m. Half-Guinea the Course.

**REGINALD STUART POOLE, Esq.,** First of Four Lectures "On Ancient Egypt in its Comparative Relations," on SATURDAY NEXT, February 13, at 3 p.m. Half-Guinea the Course.

Subscription for all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. FRIDAY NEXT, February 18th, 8 p.m.—Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, Bart. M.P., D.C.L., F.R.S., M.R.I., "Fruits and Seeds," 8 p.m.

**ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, 22, Albemarle-street, W.—MONDAY, February 21, at Four p.m., the Rev. JOHN GARDINER will read a Paper "On the Kites, or Ghos of Central India." W. & W. VAUX, Sec. Roy. Asiat. Soc.**

**ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.**—THE EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING of the SESSION will be held on MONDAY EVENING, February 14, 1881, at Eight p.m., when the Name of the Gentleman nominated by the Council for submission to Her Majesty the Queen as Royal Gold Medalist, 1881, will be announced. The Discussion, adjourned from the 17th of January, of the Paper "On Sanitary Science in its Relation to Civil Architecture," by E. C. ROBINS, F.R.A., will be resumed. It is proposed to limit the Discussion to Questions of Warming and Ventilating.

A GENERAL CONFERENCE of ARCHITECTS of the United Kingdom will be held in London during the Month of MAY, 1881. The principal Questions to be discussed there will be QUANTITIES and COMPETITIONS. The Secretaries of Local Societies are requested to communicate, as soon as possible, with the undersigned, who will afford further information. WILLIAM H. WHITE, Secretary. 9, Conduit-street, Hanover-square, London, W.

**GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held at the Society's Apartments, Burlington House, on FRIDAY, February 18th, at One o'clock; and the ANNUAL DINNER will take place the same Evening at the St. James's Hall Restaurant (Regent-street Entrance), at Six o'clock. Fellows and Visitors intending to dine are requested to leave their Names at the Society's Apartments.

**BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—THE SIXTH MEETING of the ASSOCIATION will be held at 32, Mark-lane-street, W., on WEDNESDAY NEXT, February 16th. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. Antiquities will be exhibited and the following Papers read:— "Prehistoric Interments at Pyramus," by J. B. PRENT, Esq. "Notes on the Tumulus of New Grange," by T. ROMILLY ALLEN, Esq., F.R.S. (Scott.). "The Roman Wall of London in Roundelish," by C. A. WATKINS. W. DE GRAY BRICH, F.R.S.E., J. Honorary R. P. LOFTUS BROCK, F.R.S.E., Secretaries.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1881.

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## LITERATURE

*A Political Diary, 1828-1830.* By Edward Law, Lord Ellenborough. Edited by Lord Colchester. 2 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

THE late Lord Ellenborough is so much better remembered for his aggressive management of Indian affairs during the two years of his Governor-Generalship, and for his subsequent advocacy of the "imperial policy" in the House of Lords, than for any earlier exploits, that the record of his official life and its surroundings more than half a century ago seems to illustrate but an insignificant portion of his career. However, even if more recent diaries exist, Lord Colchester has doubtless done well in publishing this autobiographical fragment as a separate work. Somewhat more careful editing and fuller annotation would have greatly enhanced its value; but, as it stands, it throws welcome light on a particularly interesting period of our history, and on some questions, those concerning Ireland and Greece especially, the aspects of which during that period may be profitably compared and contrasted with their aspects at the present time. Perhaps we ought not to complain that there is a good deal of unimportant matter in the volumes, as, had Lord Colchester attempted to sift the good from the bad, he would probably, out of respect for his uncle, have omitted a great many naive observations and small personalities that could ill have been spared.

Lord Ellenborough was thirty-seven years old when, in January, 1828, he took office as Privy Seal in the Wellington Administration which was to pass Catholic emancipation and prepare the way for the parliamentary reform that it vainly endeavoured to avert. A brother-in-law of Lord Castlereagh, he had had an unofficial share in the Vienna and Paris negotiations by which European peace was secured in 1815, and both in foreign and in domestic politics he had shaken off much of the violent Toryism of his family and his party. He had hoped that the Cabinet in which he was allowed to take a less responsible post than he considered his talents deserved might lead to such a Whig and Tory coalition as would give him Lord Grey for a colleague, but, although he was to some extent a disciple of Canning's, he had no sympathy with Palmerston, Huskisson, and the other Canningites,

and he did all he could to bring about their secession. He evidently, indeed, disliked and distrusted nearly everybody he had much to do with, generally, if not always, because he thought he could do any or all of the work that had to be done much better than anybody else. He was made President of the Board of Control, retaining the Privy Seal, in September, 1828; but he wanted most of all to be Foreign Secretary, and his diary contains an amusing amount of fault-finding with others of his colleagues besides Lord Aberdeen, his *bête noire* after Palmerston had left the Cabinet. Thus he writes on May 28th, 1828:—

"I cannot think Aberdeen a fitter man than myself. He has been useless to the Duke in the Cabinet, and he failed as Ambassador to Austria. He cannot speak at all. I do not think the Duke acts wisely. I am more popular with the Tories; the Whigs would have considered my appointment (I mean Lord Grey and &c.) one of good omen for them, and as far as a man is capable of judging himself, I could have done the duty of the office well."

Again, on May 29th:—

"Called on Hardinge. Told him in substance what I had written in the paper. He saw the Duke yesterday. He expressed great regard for me; said I had ten times the ability of Aberdeen: that I was as certain of rising to be a Secretary of State as he ever was of rising in the army; that I had more talent than any man in the Cabinet, and had showed great temper and judgment—but why are persons placed permanently in every office I could occupy?"

And on September 1st:—

"I had a little conversation with Vesey Fitzgerald at the Chancellor's, where I dined, on the subject of our diplomacy. He thinks it, as I do, miserable. In fact the Government is very ill served, and Aberdeen is not the man to make our Ministers do their duty, or to change them if they do not. The Duke can only have made him Foreign Minister under the idea that he might manage him as he pleased—and so he does, giving all the appointments of a higher order as if they belonged to the Treasury. As far as patronage is concerned I should have no objection to this; but the Foreign Minister ought not to permit the appointment of a man he thinks unfit."

And so all through these volumes, which, besides their illustrations of graver subjects, give curious evidence of the petty jealousies that seem to have made up a good deal of the political life of the time. Altogether Lord Ellenborough's 'Diary' gives no more exalted view of ministerial dignity and virtue than do Lord Beaconsfield's novels. On one page he quotes a frank statement of Lord Lyndhurst's:—

"We should have no Cabinets after dinner. We all drink too much wine, and are not civil to each other."

Though not appointed to the Foreign Secretaryship, Lord Ellenborough took great interest in European affairs, and, according to his own account, exercised much control over England's share in them. The battle of Navarino had been fought three months before he took office, and the differences between Russia and Turkey as well as the arrangements for the Greek kingdom had still to be settled. We read much about them in this 'Diary,' which is especially full of evidence of the Government's desire to keep Russia in check and to cripple Greece as much as possible. Now and then, however, it inclined for a time to a more generous policy, which, if adopted, might

have simplified the Eastern Question during the past fifty years. "We are all agreed," it is said in a report of one Cabinet meeting, "that it is now our interest to make Greece a substantive State, which may hereafter receive the *débris* of the Ottoman Empire."

Again:—

"Aberdeen is for settling Greece as a Power into whose lap the broken parts of Turkey may fall."

But the Greeks were not liked by people in office, and Prince Leopold's candidature helped to prejudice George IV. and the Government against them, since it seemed to threaten French aggrandizement. We read under the date of January 13th, 1830:—

"The King seems to have been violently agitated. He said sneeringly to Aberdeen, 'If I may be allowed to ask, is Prince Leopold to be married to a daughter of the Duke of Orleans?' Aberdeen said he had seen it in the newspaper, and knew nothing more of it. The King alluded to the possibility of Government going out, admitted the inconvenience just before the meeting of Parliament, but said he was immovable. Leopold might go to the devil, but he should not carry English money out of the country. In the morning, talking to the Duchess of Gloucester, he said, 'If they want a Prince of my family, they might have had the Duke of Gloucester,' upon which the Duchess burst out a-laughing."

Yet Leopold's withdrawal gave great offence. In very characteristic terms Lord Ellenborough wrote on May 23rd:—

"Aberdeen will be in the position of the manager of a country theatre who, just as the curtain is about to be drawn up, is obliged to come forward and announce that the amateur gentleman who had solicited the part of Macbeth, who had attended all the rehearsals, and whose only difficulty, which was about money, seemed to be in a fair way of adjustment, had unexpectedly intimated his intention to withdraw in a printed address to the galleries. Forsooth there should have been an appeal to the people of Greece on the subject of their Government! An appeal to the people of Newgate on the subject of the new police!"

Although he professed himself anxious to enter into political alliance with Lord Grey and the Whigs, Lord Ellenborough wholly disapproved of any movement towards parliamentary reform. In the early months of its existence the Wellington Cabinet was much troubled by Lord John Russell's proposal to disfranchise Penryn and East Retford, notorious haunts of corruption. Sir Robert Peel favoured the suggestion; but not so Lord Ellenborough. "I object," he wrote on March 19th, 1828, "to establishing a principle which may concede the necessity of parliamentary reform." This was one of the grounds of his hostility to the Canningites, whose secession on account of it was thus doubly agreeable to him. On the Catholic question, however, which just then was much more urgent, his views were liberal. From conviction he seems to have adopted the course that Wellington took on the ground of expediency. "It really is like a dream," he wrote on January 18th, 1829, after the Cabinet meeting at which the king's speech announcing the reform had been considered:—

"How beyond hope it is [*sic*] that this question should be taken up by a Government in this King's life!"

The king certainly was bitter enough against the proposal. On January 28th Lord Ellenborough wrote:—

"The King agrees to the words proposed for his speech; but he seemed very reluctant when the Duke mentioned that the Catholics were to be excluded from judicial offices connected with the Church. The King said, 'What, do you mean a Catholic to hold any judicial office? To be a Judge of the King's Bench?' When seats in Parliament were mentioned, he said, 'Damn it, &c., you mean to let them into Parliament?' If he should be able he will take an opportunity of turning us out; but I do not think he will have the opportunity. The Duke thinks he can make the King prevent the Duke of Cumberland from coming over."

The efforts that were made to prevent the Duke of Cumberland from going from Dublin to Windsor in order to try to persuade the king not to sanction the change are amusingly set forth, and the story of Wellington's reiterated expostulations with the king and his brother is told at length. We read, for instance, on February 28th:—

"Cabinet at 4. The Duke said he had an interview of five and a quarter hours with the King. The King ultimately yielded all points, even to the extent of desiring the Duke of Cumberland to leave England. The King declared himself more satisfied with the Bill than with anything he had seen. He had great unwillingness to write *himself* to the household, desiring their attendance in the House of Lords during the Catholic measures, but he had no objection to the Duke of Wellington writing to them in his name. That is, he acquiesced in this, but he did not much like it. Accordingly the Duke read to the Cabinet a letter which he proposed to submit to the King before he sent it, in which, referring to his general request that they would attend the House, made to them at the beginning of the session, he informed them, that it being the intention of His Majesty's Ministers to introduce measures in conformity with the gracious recommendation in His Majesty's Speech, he had His Majesty's commands to desire their attendance in their places during the progress of those measures. The Duke of Cumberland was to have seen the Duke of Wellington at 12 to-day. He managed to arrive in town at 1, and then wrote to the Duke to say that, as he came up to town, he had thought that under present circumstances he could not see the Duke, or the Duke call on him, without exciting public attention. He therefore wished, before he saw the Duke, to know whether he had any objection to his communicating the substance of their conversation to Lord Eldon and others of his friends. The Duke wrote in reply that he did not care who knew what passed between them. He was going to ride out, and should be home at such an hour. The Duke of Cumberland called and they talked of the badness of the roads, &c. The Duke represents his interview with the King to have been very painful indeed. The King was in a very agitated state, and even spoke of abdicating. The Duke said it was the more painful in consequence of the very peremptory language he was obliged to hold to him. However, the King was very kind, and kissed him when he left him. The Duke, before he left the Castle, wrote a note to the King expressing his gratitude for His Majesty's kindness during the painful interview he had had with him, assuring His Majesty that nothing out of a deep sense of the importance of the objects at stake would have led him to insist as he did upon the several points he had submitted to His Majesty, and declaring that His Majesty's kindness would induce him to guard with increased anxiety the interests His Majesty had justly so much at heart."

On the same day the Cabinet heard of Sir Robert Peel's defeat at Oxford.

"At the close of the poll Peel was 126 below Inglis. It is now much to be regretted that

Peel ever stood. The violence of the parsons was beyond belief, and far beyond decency; they made faces at and abused each other; but the Protestants were the boldest and the most violent. Now 700 parsons, flushed with triumph, will return to their parishes like firebrands, and excite the whole country. Peel is himself perfectly indifferent, and really I must confess that he has shown himself a *great man* by his equanimity in all that has taken place." The Oxford opposition, joined with the Duke of Cumberland's persuasion, almost inclined the king to withdraw his consent. On March 4th:—

"Cabinet dinner at Lord Bathurst's. The Duke having gone down to Windsor with the Chancellor and Peel, they joined us at a quarter before 10. The Duke told us that the result of the interview was that Peel would to-morrow declare in the House of Commons that he could not bring on the Relief Bill because he was no longer Minister. The King talked for six hours. The Duke says he never witnessed a more painful scene. He was so evidently insane. He had taken some brandy-and-water before he joined them, and sent for some more, which he continued to drink during the Conference. During six hours they did not speak fifteen minutes. The King objected to every part of the Bill. He would not hear it. The Duke most earnestly entreated him to avoid all reference to his Coronation oath. The King at one moment talked of postponing the consideration of the Bill till he had seen the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London—but he gave up that idea of himself. It seems that he does not know what his Coronation oath is. He has confused it with the oath of Supremacy. The Duke saw Knighton after he had left the King. Knighton said the King was in a deplorable state, and declared he had not a friend left in the world. Knighton wanted the Duke to see Lady Conyngham, but he was afraid of meeting the King there, as he usually goes there after a scene. The Duke's idea is that he may be sent for on Tuesday, on their finding they cannot make a Government, and he thinks that is the King's expectation; but that he wishes to obtain popularity, and to seem to be forced. It is impossible not to feel the most perfect contempt for the King's conduct. We should be justified in declaring we will have no further intercourse with one who has not treated us like a gentleman."

But on the next day:—

"At a quarter past 12 received a message from the Duke to go to him immediately. I went, thinking he had to announce the King's insanity. He, however, had to announce a complete victory. A quarter of an hour after he got home last night he received a letter from the King declaring that to avoid the mischief of having no Administration he consented to the Bill proceeding as a measure of Government, but with infinite pain. The Duke immediately wrote an answer, in which he stated clearly and strongly his understanding of the King's letter. The King replied that his understanding of it was correct."

After hearing so much of the way in which the Duke of Wellington was able to control the king's action on a great affair of state, it is amusing to find his Majesty threatening to dismiss his Premier because he had dined out without leave. On May 20th, 1829, it seems,

"the Duke told Lord Bathurst and me the King had been very angry with him for going to the Duke of Norfolk's dinner, and now openly expressed his wish to get rid of his Ministers. The Duke wrote to the King and told him it really was not a subject he thought it necessary to speak to him about, that he dined with everybody and asked everybody to dinner, that had he known beforehand who were to dine with the

Duke of Norfolk, which he did not, he could not have objected to any one of them. That the King himself had dined with the Duke of Norfolk. That most of the persons invited were either in his Majesty's service, or had been. It seems the King desired it might be intimated to the Duke that he was much displeased at the dinner, and that he and Cumberland damned us all."

As President of the Board of Control, Lord Ellenborough had much to do with Indian affairs, which occupy a good deal of space in his 'Diary,' though most of these entries are comparatively uninteresting. It is worth noting, however, that nearly thirty years before the change was made he was a persistent advocate of the abolition of the East India Company and of the direct government of India by the Crown.

Among the miscellaneous items of interest in these volumes are sensible notes made from time to time by Lord Ellenborough on the maladministration of justice. The following is dated June 28th, 1828:—

"Recorder's report. Four people ordered for execution. One for forgery, one for burglary, two for beating and robbing a man in a house of ill-fame. There was a woman engaged, who was spared on account of her sex, but she was the most guilty of all. I do not like Recorder's reports. I am shocked by the inequality of punishment. At one time a man is hanged for a crime which may be as two; because there are few to be hanged, and it is some time since an example has been made of capital punishment for his particular offence. At another time a man escapes for the same crime, having the proportion of five to two to the other, because it is a heavy calendar, and there are many to be executed. The actual delinquency of the individual is comparatively little taken into consideration. Extraneous circumstances determine his fate."

And this December 1st in the same year:—

"Went to Windsor. Recorder's report. Two men to be executed for burglary; one for endeavouring to cut his wife's throat, a case of jealousy, and jealousy not without reason; but the man had continued to live with his wife some months, indeed, I think, more than a year after she had admitted her infidelity. Still it is a melancholy case, for the poor man had been very happy, and the wife's conduct seems to have changed his character altogether long before he attempted her life. The woman seems to have had no compunction in giving her evidence against her husband. The fourth person ordered for execution was Munton for forgery. A strong case. The thing that distresses me in all these cases, however, is that men are punished not with reference to the extent of their own crimes, unless they be very great, but with reference to the number and circumstances of similar crimes committed by others at the same time. Our laws are so framed that all cannot be executed who incur the penalty of death—and wisely and humanely so framed, I think; but still the consequence is that in every case it is not the law but individuals who decide whether a man shall suffer or not, a very difficult and painful duty, executed, I believe, most conscientiously; but I wish it did not fall to the King's Ministers to execute it."

Lord Ellenborough's 'Diary' ends with the break-up of the Wellington Government, in November, 1830, and Lord Grey's accession to power in order that the demands of the people for parliamentary reform might be satisfied. Almost his last sentence was, "My fear is that the Whigs will not be able to form a Government. It is of much importance to the country that their incompetence should be exhibited, and the fallacy

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of the grounds upon which they have been attempting to obtain popular favour." Lord Ellenborough was not a more astute prophet than partisans generally are.

*The Epistle of Barnabas from the Sinaitic MS. of the Bible. With a Translation by Samuel Sharpe. (Williams & Norgate.)*

GREAT attention has been directed of late to the so-called Epistle of Barnabas. After Tischendorf published it from the Sinaitic MS., Hilgenfeld edited it in 1866. When Bryennius made it known that the MS. he had discovered at Constantinople contained not only Clement of Rome but Barnabas also, and sent a collation to Hilgenfeld, the latter re-edited the work in 1877. It was also issued a second time by De Gebhardt and Harnack in 1878, as the second part of the first fasciculus of the 'Patrum Apostolicorum Opera' undertaken by those two scholars and Zahn. These are unquestionably the best editions.

Mr. Sharpe, to whom we owe so many books connected with the interpretation of the Bible, continues his labours in the same department with unflinching industry; and we welcome any fresh publication of his, knowing that it must exhibit new and ingenious views, for his judgment is eminently independent. Uninfluenced by authority and entertaining but a poor opinion of German scholarship, he follows his own course, sometimes agreeing with the orthodox, oftener with the heterodox; bold in conjecture and fearless in criticism.

The present publication consists of the Sinaitic text of Barnabas accompanied with a new translation. An introduction of twenty-three pages shows the reader what this veteran scholar thinks about the epistle. He believes in its genuineness, looking upon the words in Colossians iv. 10 as favouring his opinion, because St. Paul warns the Colossians there against Barnabas, being displeased with his leaning to Gnosticism. Is not this too much to derive from the text in question? Mr. Sharpe puts the date of the epistle not later than A.D. 70. Weitzsäcker is the only other scholar who fixes the date so early. It is wholly improbable; nor is the reasoning of the present writer in its behalf at all convincing.

In speaking of quotations in the epistle, Mr. Sharpe rightly says that the author used the book of Enoch and that of Sirach. As to the New Testament writings much uncertainty prevails, and therefore we approve of the language that Barnabas "might have" borrowed thoughts from St. Paul's epistles and similar sacred sources. But it is impossible for us to adopt Mr. Sharpe's reasoning or conclusion respecting the use of St. John's Gospel in the epistle, for Holtzmann has sufficiently proved the contrary against Keim and Wittichen. Mr. Sharpe dates the fourth gospel too early, making it precede the Revelation, or A.D. 79, and thus transposes the use of these books in saying that the gospel is employed in the Revelation.

Other theories propounded in the introduction are incorrect, such as Barnabas's Gnosticism or leaning to Gnosticism. Heretical Gnosticism did not appear in the first century. Its root is in Paulinism; the specific growth did not show itself till the

time of Hadrian. A conceited claim to superior knowledge cannot be called Gnosticism without misleading simple readers.

The merits of the Sinaitic and Constantinopolitan texts are variously estimated. Neither can be taken as absolutely correct, so that both must be used in constructing the original, and aid must be sought from the other MSS. as well. We regret, therefore, that Mr. Sharpe should have rendered but one text, instead of following the critical edition published by De Gebhardt and Harnack or Hilgenfeld's second. Either of these would have facilitated his task and supplied needed help in passages which are corrupt or unintelligible in the Sinaitic MS. Attention may be drawn to two passages (in chapters iv. and xxi. of the original) where the translations given by Mr. Sharpe are wrong. The text of the first varies; that of the second presents no difficulty, and its true meaning is missed.

We need not allude to the prophetic places where Barnabas follows or distorts Daniel and the fourth Esdras. Though exceedingly obscure, Mr. Sharpe reads them at once to his own satisfaction, looking upon Vespasian as the little horn or side sprout. Barnabas follows the Revelation as well as Jewish books; but whether he understood the little horn or merely applies it to other Roman emperors than Vespasian is not clear. Mysterious passages are not the best for indicating the time when the writer lived, and Hilgenfeld tries in vain to give them a definite voice in the matter.

This little book is a laudable attempt to make the so-called Epistle of Barnabas easily and cheaply accessible to the English reader. Had the author consulted the existing literature of the subject it might have been better. The Germans would have furnished him with a more correct text than one carelessly written MS., and the English might have helped him at times to a more accurate translation. It is easy for him to produce a version superior to that contained in the Ante-Nicene Library; but why did he overlook Hoole's and Randall's, which are better? We are grateful to him for his accurate reprint of the Sinaitic MS., to which he adheres even when it is manifestly corrupt; we should have been more grateful had he been influenced by the critical opinions of Hilgenfeld, De Gebhardt, and Harnack, not to speak of Lipsius and Müller.

*Keating's History of Ireland. Book I.*

Part I. Edited by P. W. Joyce, LL.D. (Dublin, Gill & Sons.)

It is a curious fact that while books in Welsh have many readers, books in Irish have very few. The Irish language survives, but the production of literature has ceased. Ireland can boast of old books which in number and interest far exceed those of Wales, but Wales has a living literature which is not an unfair representative of the degree of culture attained by her Welsh-speaking inhabitants, while Ireland has not readers enough to support a single considerable publication in the native tongue.

The true cause of the difference has, we believe, not been pointed out. It deserves a moment's consideration in connexion with Keating's 'History,' which has, perhaps, enjoyed more popularity than any other modern

Irish book. Literary composition began in Ireland as elsewhere before the introduction of writing. The tales of the bards, the aphorisms and the leading cases of the hereditary lawyers, no doubt rapidly increased when the Roman letters became known. This was the basis of Irish literature. Poems, genealogies, historical romances, and later, true chronicles and translations from other languages, followed, and Ireland possessed a mediæval collection of books, original in part, and in part related to the general learning of Europe. If Chaucer's Doctor of Physic had visited Ireland, he would have found the native physicians reading in their own language the books which he had studied at Oxford, and which were the text-books at Montpellier. If an Irish monk at Bobbio heard the 'Divina Commedia' discussed, he could justly maintain that in the 'Vision of Adamnain' an Irishman, if with far less success, had at least made the same attempt as Dante. The wars of the sixteenth century delayed the progress of printing in Ireland. At the beginning of the next century a few books were printed, and more would no doubt have followed, but the intervals of peace were too short for book production to flourish. Thus the reign of Queen Anne saw Ireland possessed of a considerable collection of manuscripts and an Irish-speaking public still accustomed to read history and poetry from manuscripts. At the same time the gentry which would have patronized printed works in its own tongue had disappeared, and the new squires when they cared for history read Sir Richard Baker, and only thought of Irish as a language of peasants, which it was useful to know so that you might not be cursed in your own hearing. Thus Irish books never passed from the condition of manuscripts to the condition of printed impressions. The language began to decay, but scholars were still to be found, and down to the great famine in this century many Irish books had a wide circulation in manuscript. Keating's 'History' perhaps the widest. Hence many manuscript texts of it exist, but it has never been printed in full in Irish. Its author, Dr. Keating, was an Irish priest, who probably graduated at Salamanca. He was born about 1570, and died about 1640; and it is a local tradition that he wrote his history while concealed in the woods of Aherlow, in Tipperary. The history extends from the earliest times to the Norman invasion of Ireland, and its value is rather literary than historical. It contains an extraordinary collection of old verses; of historical legends, and of personal and local names. Some events and persons are merely named, while others are the occasion of pages of amusing narration in excellent Irish. It has much of the ring of an old bardic composition, while its dates and occasional short positive statements give it to uncritical readers the appearance of well-ascertained history. The profession of its author, the persecution he was known to have suffered, his warm affection for Ireland, and his thorough belief in his own statements were additional grounds for the popularity which the book soon acquired.

A history which for nearly two centuries was read aloud to fireside circles of poor men, whose care for literature had no other

encouragement than their love of it, and which has hitherto never put off the mediæval garb of manuscript, is a curious and interesting object, perhaps unique in European literature. There is much declamation in Ireland about her people, history, and literature, in which there is no information and no genuine love of country. True national self-respect, based upon a knowledge of the honourable work which has been done in the country, is only beginning to appear, and the publication of a good edition of the Irish text of Keating would be a healthy sign of its growth.

There is a good American translation of the whole book by Mr. John O'Mahony, and the part of the text given by Dr. Joyce was published by a Mr. Halliday some years ago. Dr. Joyce has, however, prepared a new text from a manuscript in the Trinity College Library. His translation of the prose and his vocabulary are all that can be wished, and to deal with the difficulties of the verse was beyond the object of his work, which is to be used as a reading book by beginners of modern Irish. With regard to the text, he states that he has supplied some accents and aspirations omitted in the original. The MS. is of the seventeenth century, and as its writer was a scholar it represents at least his theory of Irish accentuation and aspiration of letters. The text shows many aspirated letters which are not in accordance with the standard rule of Irish, and we are thus unable to determine whether they are mistakes of the editor or indicate some dialectic peculiarity or grammatical theory of the original scribe, John O'Mulconry. The most frequent of many examples is in the aspiration of the initial of *mac*, son. Thus in proper nouns in the same case Dr. Joyce sometimes aspirates the initial and sometimes does not—*Simeon Breac mac Stairn* and *Briotán Maol mhac Fearghusa*. It would be worth while in a future part to give a note of every variation from the manuscript. This might probably be done in a couple of pages, and would enormously increase the literary value of the text.

The faults are small faults, and if Dr. Joyce succeeds in bringing out the whole of Keating's text, he will have made a valuable addition to the working library of students of modern Irish.

*Russia.* By W. R. Morfill. (Sampson Low & Co.)

THE editor of the series of small volumes on "Foreign Countries and British Colonies" has been fortunate in finding for Russia so well qualified a describer as Mr. Morfill, a scholar whose knowledge of the Slavonic languages and literatures is singularly wide and deep. He has endeavoured, he says in his preface, "to judge the country fairly, and not merely from an English point of view." And his attempt may be considered successful. He writes with great fairness and impartiality, neither praising too much nor finding unnecessary fault. It would have been well, however, in a book of reference to omit such a remark capable of giving offence as that which concludes the description of Siberia: "Let these undoubted facts be taken into consideration before we allow ourselves to be duped by slanders of Russophobic prints."

Mr. Morfill begins with a sketch of the physical geography of Russia, mainly founded upon the admirable work by Reclus. He then passes on to its ethnology, its language, and its literature, on all of which subjects he speaks with special authority. Next he gives a rapid glance at St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kief, and a few of the other cities, devotes one chapter to the government and political life of the empire and another to its social life and national characteristics, and compresses into the space of twenty pages his views upon Russian history. Two chapters upon the history and literature of Poland bring to a conclusion a work which, within a very small compass, contains a great amount of trustworthy information. Compulsory compression is apt to produce obscurity, but the sole noteworthy instance of this on which we have lighted is the statement that "Berezov... takes its name from the neighbouring Ostiak village Sougmont-Bozhe, the meaning of which is Birch Town." The fact that *bereza* is the Russian for *birch* is here the missing link. Rather too much space has perhaps been given to literature, especially to that of Poland, but allowance must be made for Mr. Morfill's natural enthusiasm in favour of a subject in which he is exceptionally well versed. He has made good use of the great amount of information about the Russia of the past contained in such Russian periodicals as the *Starina*, *Russky Arkhiv*, &c., and therefore has been able to mention several facts that have not been rendered familiar by previous English writers on Russian subjects. We may instance the story of the lady "who had been a great beauty in her day, and, being unwilling that the world should become too much informed about the decay of her charms, constituted one of her serfs her perruquier, and the unhappy man was kept in a kind of captivity, never being allowed to quit a certain room." For the illustrations Mr. Morfill is, of course, by no means responsible. What purpose they can serve it is difficult to imagine, and it is to be hoped that a similar method of illustration will not be adopted in the forthcoming volumes of the series. The "Leughian," to whom a whole page is devoted, has probably done good service elsewhere, but he is quite out of place here; and the same may be said of the "Kalmuck Village" and the view of "Irkutsk, on the side of the Angara," the latter of which has already served to illustrate the pages of Jules Verne's "Michel Strogoff." The height of illustrative absurdity is reached in the portrait of the "Peasant of the Neighbourhood of Riga" at p. 112.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

- Washington Square.* By Henry James, Jun. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)  
*A Village Commune.* By Ouida. 2 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)  
*Beryl Forrescue.* By Lady Hardy. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)  
*Aunt Hepsey's Foundling.* By Mrs. Leith Adams. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)  
*Der Kaiser.* Von Georg Ebers. 2 vols. (Stuttgart, Hallberger; London, Nutt.)

MR. JAMES'S countrymen complain that he is too fond of Europe; that he has deserted

America for the society of the Old World; and that if he condescends to notice Americans at all it is only to satirize their weaknesses. This notion may be merely a symptom of the over-sensitiveness with which educated Americans are apt to observe English opinion; but in any case 'Washington Square' ought to do something towards dissipating it. The theme of a girl, in herself not attractive, being sought for her money's sake by a plausible and fascinating adventurer, to whom she in all good faith becomes deeply attached, is not exactly novel; but Mr. James has contrived, as he usually does, to throw a new charm over the old story, and to give his readers at the same time a view of the American young lady in a totally new character. Caroline Sloper, the quiet, steadfast, unattractive girl, is the sort of person whom we expect to meet with in an English country parsonage, rather than as an heiress in a fashionable part of New York; and her blind faithfulness to her unworthy suitor and her deference to her critical father are qualities which we have not been taught to look for in a Yankee girl. In depicting this character Mr. James must certainly be considered to atone for the less favourable idea of his younger countrywomen which many of his previous portraits have given. Of course the reader lays down the book with that feeling of tranquil melancholy which most of the author's stories inspire; but it is tempered by the reflection that Caroline was probably much happier as an old maid in easy circumstances than she would have been as the wife of an adventurer; and the pain of disillusion is, after all, less sad to contemplate than the misery which arises when a well-grounded anticipation of happiness is unfulfilled. Mr. James's style is as pleasant as ever, though once or twice the desire to put things smartly has made him obscure. We have utterly failed, for example, to discover the meaning of the following sentence:—

"As regards this [an early tendency to greediness in the heroine], however, a critical attitude would be inconsistent with a candid reference to the early annals of any biographer."

Of the stories which accompany 'Washington Square,' 'The Pension Beaurepas' is rather pointless. 'A Bundle of Letters' introduces some amusing characters, especially the innocent young woman from the state of Maine, who travels alone in Europe for greater advantages in the way of culture, and goes to the Palais Royal Theatre because it is marked in her guide-book with two stars: also the æsthetic youth from Boston, who writes of an English girl, "It is a very gracious, tender type," and calls her brother "purely objective." But is not the German professor wrong in saying that this youth "is an illustration of the period of culture in which the faculty of appreciation has obtained a preponderance over that of production"? If what Mr. James's countrymen call "slinging ink" be a form of production, the congeners of this young man possess a pretty considerable faculty of it.

Ouida, having given to the world in a long series of novels her views of society and morals, seems now inclined to take up the position of a political teacher. Living in Italy, she has her opinions about

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the system of municipal government which prevails in that country under its new constitution, and her opinion is unfavourable. All the officials, when they are not nonentities, are either petty tyrants or intriguing scoundrels, who torment the peasantry by an infinity of vexatious regulations, slaughter their dogs, cut down their trees under colour of improvement, and encourage the erection of steam-mills on the frivolous plea that "it is absurd that a whole commune should have to wait with its harvests unground because a little river has run dry." Nay, worse, they even persist in regarding as beggars people who "go about to all the villas, and get pence here, bread there, a cup of *mezzo-vino*, or an old bundle of scraps, as it may chance." A deserving young man, who beats a rural policeman within an inch of his life, and is only restrained from killing him outright by the intervention of calmer friends, gets seven months' imprisonment from the minions of an unjust law. In the good old days of Grand Dukes and Bourbons he would probably have given his man six inches of cold steel, and then have led the romantic life of a brigand. In a neighbourhood where work is scarce in the winter, while it is to be had "in the Maremma," but the people have "no idea how to travel there," a tasteless municipality promotes the construction of a steam tramway, which shall put the village in communication with the railway. How much better and more picturesque is the conduct of the young wife who, when her husband and grandfather are out at elbows, takes "a pilgrimage barefoot to a famous Madonna ten miles away on the hills, and there kneels and prays humbly, and sets up a candle in the shrine." Seriously, if it is possible to be serious when dealing with Ouida, she has overstated a fair case till she has made it ridiculous. No doubt Italian administration leaves much to be desired, and it would be better if, instead of troubling themselves so much about Tunis and Albania, Italian statesmen would look into the working of their new institutions, which in the hurry of their first freedom they borrowed cut-and-dried from a far more thrifty and law-abiding people. It is unreasonable to apply the highly organized system of regulations which suits an orderly and civilized nation to a peasantry only just emerged from centuries of despotism tempered by superstition. No doubt officials suddenly raised to authority are apt to be tyrannical, and the pedantic tyranny which one finds among the Latin races is of all tyrannies the hardest to bear. But, on the author's own showing, the governed have the matter to a great extent in their own hands; and if the people who pay five francs' worth of taxes will not take the trouble to elect good officials, one can hardly pity them. The truth is that Ouida, like many other *dilettante* students of Italian life, sees and regrets what was picturesque and "feudal" in the old state of things, and forgets all the barbarism and misery which underlay it. The modern Italians doubtless are overdoing it with their whitewash; but, after all, whitewash is better than typhoid fever. Let us hope that the Carmelots of real life, instead of running amuck at rural police, and trying to burn down communal palaces, will earn an honest living as stokers or porters on

railway lines, cultivate their tomatoes in the intervals of business, and elect each other to their municipal councils. As usual, Ouida blunders in several languages. "Coyingly" and "disregardless" are new and not desirable additions to English; "Calvacanti," "Polichinello," and "San Francisco di Asissi" are unusual forms of well-known Italian names; "only one strata of humanity" and "amicus curiæ" (in the sense of a witness to character) betray a superficial acquaintance with Latin technical terms; and "Apollo Cytheræus" may be the patron god of some of Ouida's earlier works, but he is not recognized in the classic Pantheon.

Beryl Fortescue is the daughter of a clergyman, and on her father's removal to a country living shows an aversion to the country and a preference for town life which are certainly unusual among modern English ladies. Indeed, her sentiments towards "the odious, odious trees" and other rural objects, the natives included, remind one somewhat of a "city madam" in the days of the *Spectator*. In other respects she is a commonplace specimen of the present day. She improves, however, on acquaintance, and is, perhaps, quite good enough for the young gentleman who becomes engaged to her, and whose extreme haste to despair when he has been unjustly suspected of disloyalty on what certainly is rather awkward *prima facie* evidence is the cause of much misery.

Mrs. Leith Adams knows how to use advantageously local knowledge of an unfamiliar scene. Her pretty and pathetic story of the misplaced love of a simple and honest-hearted girl loses nothing by being set in a framework of New Brunswick rural life. Her quaint half-American rustics, such as Simon Frostie and the village storekeeper, form a good contrast to the gentler characters of Mrs. Trevenick and "Jeva" Reed herself. The perils and pleasures of the Northern climate are graphically treated, and the death of the brave minister in the half-frozen river on returning from an adventurous piece of duty is finely described. The two British officers and the effect they produce upon a society so unaccustomed to conventional Englishmen are also very natural. A right good fellow is the "horsey" little Val Brabazon, albeit too simple a soldier to find favour with superior persons. Christie Glynn unfortunately, though possessed of far more dangerous attractions, has not the good heart which would have kept his comrade from imperilling the peace of mind of a girl who trusted him. On the whole "Jeva" is well rid of him, and the author is too fond of her heroine, who is charming in everything but her name, to allow her to be for ever unconsoled. Aunt Hepsy herself is too stout-hearted to be crushed by worse misfortunes than befall that good specimen of strong-minded spinsterhood.

'Der Kaiser' closes the cycle of Egyptian romances by which Prof. Ebers has obtained such fame at home and abroad. In 'Uarda' he had depicted the heyday of the Pharaohs, in the 'Egyptian Princess' the subjugation of the ancient empire by the Persians, in 'The Sisters' the Hellenic period under the Lagidæ, in 'Homo Sum' the anchorites of the Egyptian deserts, and now, in

'The Emperor,' the period is depicted that precedes the days of the monks in date, namely, the Roman occupation of Egypt and the first successes of Christianity. Hadrian is the hero of the tale; and his character is well represented and stands forth with its familiar features from the canvas. The scene is laid at Alexandria, and deals with the visit paid to that capital by Hadrian, which cost him the life of his favourite, Antinous. The boy plays a great part in the story. He is represented as falling in love with an Egyptian girl, for whose sake, as well as from a confused idea that he can thus avert evil from his master's head, he commits suicide. Ebers delineates him as dreamy, devoured with longing for his Bithynian home, and somewhat limited in intelligence. The story, which is slight, is much extended by means of padding and the arts of the printer. As usual with this author, the descriptions are more vivid than the characters; still, as a whole, in this novel Ebers has once more touched his highest point of excellence, and produced a work that is almost equal to his 'Egyptian Princess,' still the most massive and substantial of his novels.

#### LAW BOOKS.

*A Treatise on the Law concerning Libel and Slander.* By John C. H. Flood. (W. Maxwell & Son.)

"INDIVIDUAL calumny," says Mr. Flood, "has undoubtedly become the offence of the day"; and to make good his assertion he notices in his interesting preliminary discourse several of the more important libel and slander cases which have been before the courts during the past year. Cases of this class have undoubtedly occurred of late in considerable numbers; but that this fact conclusively proves the truth of Mr. Flood's assertion is open to doubt. His book, however, is in our opinion a useful addition to legal literature. It is not a rival, either in size or exhaustiveness, of the great work on the subjects of libel and slander, Mr. Folkard's edition of 'Starkie on Libel.' Its object is "to set forth the law concerning what may be called individual defamation in a fairly complete form and within reasonable limits; in other words, to provide means for enabling any intelligent person to obtain an insight into the mysteries surrounding the law of libel and slander, without a serious expenditure of time or trouble." Several hundreds of reported cases are referred to as well as many Acts of Parliament. The subject dealt with is, nevertheless, presented in a simple and interesting way, devoid, as far as practicable, of technicality. The book will be found useful by the professional reader, whether practitioner or student, as well as by the lay reader, for the use of both of whom it is intended.

*The Institutes of English Public Law.* Embracing an Outline of General Jurisprudence, the Development of the British Constitution, Public International, and the Public Municipal Law of England. By David Nasmyth, LL.B. (Butterworths.)

*The Institutes of English Private Law.* Embracing an Outline of the Substantive Branch of the Law of Persons and Things. (Same author and publishers.)

*The Institutes of English Adjective Law (Procedure in Court).* Embracing an Outline of the Law of Evidence and Measure of Damages. (Same author and publishers.)

THE above works taken together embrace a very wide field, no less a one than the entire law, public and private, of England. They are

intended to give a succinct view of that law, and are, perhaps, more adapted to meet the requirements of the general reader than those of persons intending to make the law their profession. Mr. Nasmith adopts the ordinary division of law into public law and private law. Each of these he subdivides into substantive law and adjective law. The first-mentioned work treats of substantive public law, or the relations of England to other independent states, and the relations which have been established between the State and its individual members, and contains, among other things, an outline of the history of the British constitution, an outline of public international law, and an outline of English public municipal law, or the measures adopted by the legislature to secure the safety and prosperity of the State and of its individual members. In the second work is discussed the substantive branch of private law, or that body of laws by which citizens are governed in their private business and social intercourse with each other. This work consists of two books, one of which treats of "persons," and the other of "things," and under each of these comprehensive heads are contained chapters in which the laws affecting persons in their various relations to each other and the laws affecting the various kinds of property are succinctly, but clearly, stated. The work on adjective law treats of "Procedure," and includes besides several chapters on the elements of the law of evidence. Mr. Nasmith's works will be a useful possession even to lawyers, but they will in particular meet the wants of those persons who are desirous of obtaining a general view of English law, but have not time for a perusal of the commentaries of Blackstone or Stephen. We think, however, that in the following extract from the preface of one of the works, in which he states generally the object he has had in view, he expresses a somewhat exaggerated opinion as to the interest the public generally take in the subject of law. "That familiarity," he says, "with the fundamental legal principles by which our daily life is regulated should be enjoyed by every subject, and that there is no more useful or fascinating study to which the mind can be directed than jurisprudence, appear propositions equally incontrovertible. It cannot be too much to say that all that can be needed to secure for English law general, if not universal, study in England is a proper introduction to the science. The fact that the production of institutional legal works is neither easy nor remunerative must, it is presumed, be assigned as the reason which has induced most of our writers of such works to confine themselves to individual branches of the law, and thus to leave the public without any general and systematic outline of the whole. My aim is gradually to occupy this vacant ground."

*Probate and Administration, Law and Practice in Common Form and Contentious Business.*  
By W. John Dixon. (Reeves & Turner.)

THE author of this work has endeavoured "to render it one of reference to the profession, and as far as possible a practical guide to the subject" it treats of. The testamentary capacity of testators, the formalities to be observed on the execution of wills, the modes in which wills may be revoked, the granting of probate and letters of administration, are all considered; and chapters are added showing the course of proceeding in a probate action. In an appendix the statutes bearing upon the subject of the work, the rules and forms applicable to procedure, scales of court fees, costs, &c., are set out. The work, we have no doubt, will prove of use, though it is not altogether free from inaccuracies in language. The author, however, in his preface says: "Error and misconception are unavoidable, and doubtless have not been here avoided. Those who detect the one or the other will confer an obligation by pointing them out."

*Notes on the Conflicting Claims to the Property of a Debtor.* By Henry John Pye. (Butterworths.)

THE author of these notes informs his readers that they "are intended merely as the outline of an arrangement with regard to distinctive claims which at first are rather confusing; and as it would have saved the writer considerable trouble to have found some such a plan as the following ready to hand, instead of having to form one for himself, it may perhaps be useful to others." Whatever may have been the author's object in writing these notes, their utility is doubtful. They hardly seem calculated to meet the wants either of those persons who resort to "handy books" for their information or of professional readers.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. FOSTER'S *Peerage and Baronetage* (Nichols & Sons), which now appears for the second time, deserves success from the care with which it has been compiled and from the fulness of the information which it affords. The *Peerage* is preceded by an exhaustive statement of the royal lineage, which is now elucidated by genealogical tables which trace back the ancestry of the Queen for a thousand years and show the relationship to each other of all our sovereigns from the time of Alfred the Great. Another improvement in this edition is that heirs-presumptive are pointed out in such distinctive type as to immediately attract attention. "Chaos" has been slightly enlarged in the present edition, and upwards of sixty persons who claim to be baronets obtain there a somewhat unenviable notoriety. That Mr. Foster's separation of well-established baronetcies from the doubtful serves a useful purpose is proved by the fact that certain baronets, whose pedigrees, being insufficiently authenticated, were last year mentioned in "Chaos," have since cleared up the doubtful points in their genealogies and have escaped from that "Purgatorio"; the fresh proofs they have brought forward being incorporated in the *Baronetage* proper. In one or two instances Mr. Foster has reinforced his arguments against doubtful claims, and he makes out such a *prima facie* case against the Irish Heralds for having certified the pedigree of Fitzgerald of Castle Isken that one may expect an interesting reply from the Dublin College of Arms.

We have received Kelly's *Handbook to the Titled, Landed, and Official Classes for 1881*. This useful work, generally known as Kelly's 'Upper Ten Thousand,' is most accurate in its many facts. We have found but few errors, and even these are often mere undetected printer's errors, made in one part of the work and not made in another. Thus, for instance, at p. 9 we have "Coates" for *Cotes*, which is right at p. 178.

We have on our table the issue for 1881 of that excellent work of reference *Crockford's Clerical Directory* (Cox & Co.). In his preface the editor deals with the question of tithes, which the present distress among farmers has brought to the surface.—Mr. Bosworth's *Clergy Directory* grows yearly in bulk, and the price has been raised in consequence. The book is still cheap.

*Dumdumington Rectory* (Remington & Co.), by the Author of 'Marriage à la Mode,' is a volume made up of three stories and a love poem. Two of the stories relate the adventures of a couple of curates, successively engaged to assist the ministrations of the Honourable and Reverend Fitz-Dum, "one of the Fitz-Dums of Dumdum Castle." There is a great show of humour throughout these stories, levelled with tolerable impartiality against some of the most familiar follies and foibles of the ecclesiastical world. The author, perhaps, would prefer that his humour should be regarded as satire; but in that case it would be necessary to observe

that the hitting is much too hard, and that these pictures of curates and rectors, bishops and patrons of livings, are greatly overdrawn. More delicacy of treatment is indispensable in a satirist before he can hope to contribute towards the fulfilment of the aspiration inscribed on the cover of this book. There are better ways of ringing out the false and ringing in the true than by dressing effigies of straw for the purpose of covering them with ridicule. 'Lily Brooke's Song,' which occupies no more than three pages, is not the worst portion of this unequal volume.

We have on our table Mr. Bernard Becker's reprint of the excellent letters he contributed to the *Daily News*, which is entitled *Disturbed Ireland* (Macmillan).—*Africa, Seen through its Explorers*, by C. H. Eden (S.P.C.K.).—*Voyages of the Elizabethan Seamen to America*, edited by E. J. Payne (De La Rue & Co.).—*Our Colony in 1880*, by the Rev. J. Ballantyne (Melbourne).—*M. L. Hutchinson*,—*A Bygone Oxford*, by F. Goldie (Burns & Oates).—*A Selection from the Indian Despatches, &c.*, of the Duke of Wellington, by S. J. Owen (Frowde).—*Analytical Index to Sir John W. Kaye's History of the Sepoy War*, by F. Pincott (Allen & Co.).—*A Guide to the Study of Theology*, by Rev. F. H. Woods (Oxford, Thornton).—*The Story of Philosophy*, by A. Leigh (Trübner).—*Kenia's Kingdom*, by R. W. Brown (Bogue).—*Little Empress Joan*, by the Author of 'Little Hinges' (Cassell).—*The Young Berringtons*, by W. H. G. Kingston (Cassell).—*The Chevalier's Daughter*, by L. E. Guernsey (Shaw & Co.).—*Jack*, by Y. Osborn (Shaw & Co.).—*In the City*, by the Author of 'The Spanish Brothers' (Shaw & Co.).—*In the Desert*, by the Author of 'The Southern Cross' (Shaw & Co.).—*Wise Words and Loving Deeds*, by E. C. Gray (Marshall Japp & Co.).—*Reginald Dalton*, by J. G. Lockhart (Warne).—*Cyril Thornton*, by Capt. T. Hamilton (Warne).—*Poems*, by W. J. Nicholls (The Author).—*Lessons on the Life and Epistles of St. Paul*, by E. H. Green (C.E.S.S.).—*The Authorship of the Fourth Gospel*, by E. Abbot (Trübner).—*The Three Sevens*, by H. T. Adamson (Kegan Paul).—*The Evidential Value of the Acts of the Apostles*, by the Very Rev. J. S. Howson (Isbister).—*Procédure d'Extradition*, by C. E. H. Vincent (Hachette).—*Geschichte der Völkervanderung, Part I.*, by E. von Vietersheim (Leipzig, T. O. Weigel).—*Prolegomenes à l'Histoire des Religions*, by A. Réville (Paris, G. Fischbacher).—*and Briefe meines Vaters*, by C. A. Lochnis (Trübner).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

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Cambridge Bible for Schools: The Book of Jeremiah, together with Lamentations, with Notes, &c., by Rev. A. W. Strahan, 12mo. 4/6 cl.  
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Law (W.). Nonjuror and Mystic. A Sketch of his Life, Character, and Opinions, by J. H. Overton, 8vo. 15/6 cl.  
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**FOREIGN.**

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**THE TEMPLE OF JERUSALEM.**

20, Langham Place, Feb. 2, 1881.

It certainly was very imprudent in me to introduce any words about "those who know the circumstances" or "can read between the lines" in the presence of so captious a critic as Col. Warren, who was certain to try to ride off on a side issue if possible, and neglect the main point of the case. I ought to have left the letter to tell its own story, and will now withdraw these expressions if he wishes it. For my justification, it is quite sufficient that Col. Wilson should state that Col. Warren "had misunderstood much that he wrote, and misrepresented his views with regard to the masonry of the Haram wall and the site of the Temple"; and further on, that "his excavations"—it was here that I read between the lines, after lasting for years and costing many thousand pounds—had "left the two great questions connected with the sites

of the Temple and the Holy Sepulchre as much matter of dispute as they were before." He concludes by saying, "I object very strongly to any one formulating theories for me which I do not hold,"—a sentiment with which I thoroughly sympathize, for it is precisely to that habit of Col. Warren that I, too, so strongly object.

Perhaps a little more light may be thrown on this subject if the Council of the Palestine Exploration Fund see fit to publish the report of a sub-committee of their body which they appointed to investigate this matter, or Col. Wilson may himself explain it more fully; but meanwhile his published letter with all its qualifying phrases is before the public, and that, I conceive, more than fully justifies all I ever said on the subject.

Now that Col. Warren has condescended to furnish an intelligible reference to the passage in my "History of Architecture," the mystery about the Temple of Diana at Ephesus is cleared up, and a very pretty pitfall to entrap an unwary author it appears to be, but it is nothing more. It is quite true that in 1865, when it seemed doubtful if even the site of the temple would be discovered, I, like many others before me, did make an attempt to reconcile Pliny's description of this exceptional wonder of the world with the extremest proportions admissible in Greek art. I failed, as all had done who before me had tried the same venture, and, now that Mr. Wood's excavations have revealed the true state of the case, it is evident we did so simply because, with the data before us, the problem was then insoluble. When I became aware of this, I confessed the error of my ways by withdrawing this diagram, and in the second edition of my "History," in 1874, substituting a copy of Mr. Wood's plan, showing the true state of the case. Having done this, I confess I forgot all about my abortive attempt at restoration, and it never occurred to me that any one would in 1880 fish up this exploded diagram, in a volume long out of print, and use it seriously as an argument for the dimensions of a building with which it has no analogy whatever. Even assuming, however, the extreme dimensions I was inclined to ascribe to this "wonder of the world," this will hardly avail Col. Warren's argument to any great extent. A simple sum of arithmetic would have shown him that, if columns 60 ft. in height were placed 25 ft. 7 in. apart from centre to centre, the proportional spacing of columns 37 ft. 6 in. in height would, as nearly as may be, be 16 ft., or only one foot in excess of the ascertained dimensions. As I said in my previous letter, if we take the true dimension of 17 ft. 1 in., as ascertained by Mr. Wood, this would be between 10 and 11 ft.; in both instances very far from the 23 to 24 ft. which are necessary to extend the Stoa basilica to the 930 ft. required for Col. Warren's theory.

The curious part of the business is that Col. Warren does not see the absurdity of his logic in the matter. It never seems to have occurred to him to ask, What possible influence could the mistakes of an author in the present day have on the design of a building erected before the Christian era? The public expected from him some information regarding the length of the Stoa basilica, and he replies, A certain contemporary author made a mistake in saying that the epistylia of the Temple of Diana, Ephesus, were 25 ft. 7 in., therefore the intercolumniation of the Stoa at Jerusalem must have been from 23 to 24 ft.,—which is hardly a satisfactory mode of meeting the question.

The truth of the matter is Col. Warren's book is not a serious attempt to settle the topography of Jerusalem nor the dimensions of the Temple. It was correctly described by Mr. MacGrigor, of Glasgow, in the *Academy* of the 8th ult., as "a pamphlet of some 250 pages against Mr. Fergusson and his views," and that is really all that it is. If the public are amused by a polemic of this sort, I don't object; but as I feel that he has not refuted my views on a single

point, I never should have noticed it but for the offensive personalities with which it is flavoured, and which no gentleman could well pass without repudiating.

This being so, I regret to perceive that Col. Warren reiterates his allegations with regard to the difference between plates v. and vii. of my work in even a more offensive form than he did before. He now ventures to insinuate that I instructed my artist to alter the plans to make them suit my views. The proof that I did not do so is that even now, to my eye, plate vii. is as exact a copy of plate v. as it was possible to reproduce in the different materials. It is true that, by drawing lines in pencil across the plates, I am now able to detect by the use of a goniometer that the axis of the Dome of the Rock is deflected between two and three degrees to the westward beyond its true bearing. Col. Warren (p. 222) says "nearly three degrees," but he probably exaggerates. This, however, is a very different thing from "turning the building round on its axis," as Col. Warren asserted. It is, too, a discrepancy to avoid which, in so small a building on so small a scale, would require a more exact artist than I have ever had the good fortune to meet, and a cleverer eye than mine to detect in an octagonal or round building without instrumental aid, even when attention is called to it. Admitting all this, however, Col. Warren finds out that by making the east face of the Dome of the Rock more nearly parallel to the east wall of the Haram than to the west wall—it is not, in fact, exactly parallel to either—I gain an advantage in favour of my views. Having made this discovery, he raises a wonderful superstructure upon it, though he knows perfectly well that I never expressed any such views nor based any argument upon them. The truth of the matter is that the walls and terraces of the Haram area beyond the limits of the Jewish Temple are laid out with such an absolute disregard of symmetry, that no argument either for or against any proposition can, I believe, be based on any parallelism that may or may not exist between them and the buildings inside. This being, and always having been, my conviction, I could have no possible motive in altering any plan, even to the infinitesimal extent Col. Warren has detected. I have consequently no hesitation in reasserting that his allegation, that I purposely altered the plan to suit my own views, is absolutely untrue.

JAMES FERGUSSON.

**ALEXIS PISEMSKY.**

ONE of the leading Russian novelists, Alexis Pisemsky, died in Moscow last week. Born in the year 1820, on an estate in the Government of Kostroma, educated at the University of Moscow, he commenced his literary career in 1846 by writing a novel called 'Boyarschina,' which, as the censors would not allow it to be published, circulated in manuscript only for many years. In 1850 he began to write in the *Moskovitianin* and other periodicals, and was soon recognized as one of the most remarkable of the novelists and dramatists of the day. In the 'Petersburger' he described a peasant who returns to his native village after a sojourn in the capital, and in the 'Lyeshy' or 'Forest Demon' a plunderer of the peasants. The heroine of his 'Whirlpool' ('V Vodovoroty') is one of the daring, unconventional, sceptical women whom the trials of the Nihilists have recently made familiar to Western Europe; its hero being one of the weak-willed, soft-hearted, aristocratic freethinkers who are more common in Russia than reasonable reformers. The most popular of his novels is the 'Tuisyacha Dush,' which takes its name from the "thousand souls," or serfs, whom the unprepossessing heroine brings as her dowry to her husband. His works are marked by originality of idea and vigour of expression, but they are by no means pleasant to read.

## MR. CARLYLE.

To only a very few men of genius has it been allowed either to live through so long a term of years, or in their term of years, whether long or short, to use so completely all the powers with which they were endowed, or which they acquired by their own steadfast effort, as to "the seer of Chelsea," who died in the London suburb that his name will do much to make classic on Saturday, the 5th inst., in his eighty-sixth year. Many of our great teachers and workers seem to be taken from us before their time, leaving us to deplore that the vitality of their bodies has not been equal to that of their minds. In others, and not a few, the mind appears to wither sooner than the body, and long before we follow them to the grave we have the painful consciousness that all the strength of life has left them. As regards actual literary workmanship this is, to some extent, true even of Thomas Carlyle. Excepting a few unimportant utterances of old thoughts, he produced nothing after the completion of his 'Frederick the Great' in 1865; and there was more than idle pathos in his record, next year, on his wife's tombstone that "the light of his life was gone out." But there was the light of clear, fresh intellectual vigour in him almost to the last. There was notable completeness but no redundancy in his career of four-score years and five. It was singularly uneventful, even for one who was a student from first to last, and who aspired to be nothing more than "a writer of books."

He was born, on the 4th of December, 1795, in the village of Ecclefechan, where his father, at that time a stonemason, afterwards advanced to be a farmer in a small way. Tradition gives a good account of old James Carlyle, who, shrewd and strict, shared the common ambition and piety of small Scotch farmers in desiring that his firstborn should become a minister of the Kirk. With that object young Carlyle was diligently educated, first at Hoddam School and afterwards at the burgh school of Annan ("Hinterschlag Gymnasium"), six miles distant, before being sent in 1810, when only in his fifteenth year, to obtain higher training at the University of Edinburgh under such professors as Leslie, Playfair, Dunbar, and Thomas Brown. Brown's cut-and-dried ethics may have started his lifelong prejudice against "philosophism"; and Leslie's lively method of teaching mathematics certainly developed in him a stronger taste for that branch of science than might have been looked for in a man of his temperament. This taste showed itself afterwards not only in his choice of schoolmaster's work, and in his candidature for the professorship of Astronomy, in Glasgow, but also in one of his first literary exploits. Speaking, in his 'Budget of Paradoxes,' of an English version of Legendre's 'Geometry,' De Morgan said:

"I picked up a notion, which others had at Cambridge in 1825, that the translator was the late Mr. Galbraith, then known at Edinburgh as a writer and teacher; but it turns out that it was by a very different person, and one destined to shine in quite another walk. It was a young man named Thomas Carlyle. He prefixed from his pen a thoughtful and ingenious essay on proportion, as good a substitute for the fifth book

of Euclid as could have been given in the space, and quite enough to show that he would have been a distinguished teacher and thinker on First Principles."

His studies at Edinburgh, which he left in May, 1814, inclined Carlyle to rebel against his father's plan of making him a preacher, and with some difficulty he obtained permission to become a schoolmaster. For two years he filled the post of teacher of mathematics and classics in Kirkcaldy burgh school. But teaching was irksome to him, and in 1818 he went back to Edinburgh, there, by writing for Brewster's 'Edinburgh Encyclopædia,' and other hack-work, to earn money enough to enable him to go through the immense course of reading in history, poetry, romance, and other fields, which constituted the most fruitful portion of his education. In his old age he was fond of talking about the troubles and efforts of this period—efforts that were too hearty to be ever wearisome, and troubles that were borne lightly for the sake of the object he had in view. He took pride, for instance, in telling how he learned German. After vainly seeking during a long time for an instructor, he fell in with a young man as poor as himself who had visited Prussia, and thus obtained a smattering of the speech of the country. Carlyle agreed to instruct this youth in mathematics in exchange for lessons in German; but when he had learned all that his friend could teach him he found that he did not know much. Thereupon he betook himself to such defective grammars and dictionaries as were within his reach, and soon was able to read intelligently the writings of Schiller, whose fame had extended even to Edinburgh. The delight that he derived thence was quickly followed by the greater delight of studying Goethe; and it was from these two that he received the great impulse that found expression in nearly all his own literary achievements. But poverty did not enhance the pleasure of his studious life; and if from his immense reading he derived no more knowledge and material for original thought than he was in the long run able to digest, the digestion required a longer time than his three years of plodding in Edinburgh. His health broke down, and he became sick at heart. He felt that he must go elsewhere. His most intimate friend then was Edward Irving, the great preacher of later days, whose acquaintance he had made some years before, in Irving's native town of Annan. "Carlyle goes to-morrow," Irving wrote in 1821.

"It is very odd, indeed, that he should be sent, for want of employment, to the country. Of course, like every man of talent, he has gathered around this Patmos many a splendid purpose to be fulfilled, and much improvement to be wrought out. 'I have the ends of my thoughts to bring together, which no one can do in this thoughtless scene. I have my views of life to reform, and the whole plan of my conduct to remodel; and withal I have my health to recover. And then once more I shall venture my bark upon the waters of this wide realm, and, if she cannot weather it, I shall steer west and try the waters of another world.' So he reasons and resolves; but surely a worthier destiny awaits him than voluntary exile."

How many of our great thinkers and writers, from Locke down to Coleridge, have dreamed of seeking relief from the dead-

ness or turmoil of life at home by crossing the Atlantic! Carlyle, like the others, only dreamed of it, although he for a moment really intended going at the pressing invitation of Mr. Emerson. Returning to his father's quiet farm for a short time, he soon obtained employment—which was in its way very welcome to him, because it freed him from much anxiety about money matters—as tutor to Charles Buller; and it was during the five years in which he occupied this post that his life as an author really commenced. He continued his contributions to Brewster's 'Encyclopædia,' and in 1823 he began to issue in the *London Magazine* his 'Life of Schiller.' In 1824, besides the translation of Legendre's 'Geometry,' he produced his version of 'Wilhelm Meister,' which was followed by four volumes of German romance, "a book of translations," as he called the series, "not of my suggesting or desiring, but of my executing as honest journey-work in defect of better." It was probably during these years, and as part of his tutorship of Charles Buller, that he paid his first long visit to Germany, and there made the personal acquaintance with Goethe and Goethe's friends which not only encouraged him to do so much immediate work in introducing German literature to English readers, but also directed his thoughts into a channel that was followed all through his life.

In 1826 Carlyle married Miss Jane Welsh, a descendant of John Knox, and, after residing for a short time in Edinburgh, he retired for six years to the farm of Craigenputtock, in Dumfriesshire, a small property belonging to his wife. Thence, in 1828, he wrote to Goethe the celebrated letter which gives such a delightful view of his life and surroundings, his temper and pursuits, throughout this period.

His literary activity, about which he expressed doubts to Goethe, was great enough, though Carlyle—not venturing to hope that, now thirty-three years old, he had yet more than half a century to live—seems to have wished it to be greater. Having hitherto, with the exception of his 'Life of Schiller,' produced little more than short miscellaneous articles and various translations from the German, he now applied himself almost exclusively to the writing of critical and biographical articles for the *Edinburgh*, the *Foreign Quarterly*, and *Fraser*. At Craigenputtock he prepared his essays on Burns and on Boswell's 'Johnson,' on Richter, Werner, Goethe, Novalis, Schiller, Voltaire, Diderot, and other French and German authors. For the rest, his brain was seething with the strange, wild thoughts that found such strange, wild utterance in 'Sartor Resartus.'

The writing and rewriting of that work occupied portions of several years. It appears to have been finished in 1831, but it only saw the light in the pages of *Fraser*, through the help of Dr. John Carlyle, physician to the Duke of Buccleuch, during 1833 and 1834. Carlyle has himself scornfully told how the work was rejected by one publisher after another. It was probably the journeys that he made to London on account of 'Sartor Resartus' and the friendships that he began or strengthened on these occasions that induced him to exchange his quiet life in the Dumfriesshire wilds for life almost as quiet in the great

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metropolis. This he did, at any rate, early in 1834, and he soon found himself at home in the little house in Cheyne Row, Chelsea, which he occupied through the remainder of his life. "We have broken up our old settlement, and, after tumult enough, formed a new one here under the most opposite conditions," he wrote to Sir William Hamilton.

"From the ever-silent whinstones of Nithsdale to the mud-rattling pavements of Piccadilly, there is but a step. I feel it the strangest transition; but one uses himself to all. Our upholsterers, with all their rubbish and chip-pings, are at length handsomely swept out of doors. I have got my little book-press set up, my table fixed firm in its place, and sit here awaiting what time and I, in our questionable wrestle, shall make out between us."

'Sartor Resartus' made Carlyle at once a famous man in London, and he became a brilliant member of a brilliant literary circle. John Stuart Mill and Leigh Hunt, the Hares and Maurice, his old pupil Charles Buller, John Sterling, whose life he wrote in 1851, and a crowd of others were his friends in these days, when his intellect was in its prime, and when neither mind nor heart was warped by the generous but ill-governed impulses that mastered him in later life. Leigh Hunt has left a pleasant sketch of one phase of his character at this time.

"I believe that what Mr. Carlyle loves better than his fault-finding, with all its eloquence," he wrote in his 'Autobiography,' "is the face of any human creature that looks suffering and loving and sincere; and I believe further that if the fellow creature were suffering only, and neither loving nor sincere, but had come to a pass of agony in this life which put him at the mercies of some good man for some last help and consolation towards his grave, even at the risk of loss to repute and a sure amount of pain and vexation, that man, if the groan reached him in its forlornness, would be Thomas Carlyle."

During the next thirty years life went as easily for Carlyle as it could do for a man of such strong sympathies and antipathies, so full of aspirations and depressions. In 1837 he published his 'French Revolution,' and in the same year he began to appear as a public lecturer, his first course being a series of six lectures on German literature. He discoursed next year on European culture, in 1839 on "the revolutions of modern Europe," and in 1840 he delivered the most memorable series of all, the matter of which was afterwards published in 'Heroes and Hero-Worship.' Of the effect of the last course Leigh Hunt said that it was "as if some Puritan had come to life again, liberalized by German philosophy and his own intense reflections and experience." After that all efforts to induce Carlyle to lecture were in vain; but he worked on with his pen, and devoted himself more carefully than before to historical investigations, though without loss of interest in the political and social movements of his own day. 'Chartism,' having appeared in 1839, was followed by 'Past and Present' in 1843, by 'Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches' in 1845, by the 'Latter-Day Pamphlets' in 1850, and by the 'Life of John Sterling' in 1851. After that he employed himself during fourteen years on the largest, if not the most important, work of his life, the 'History of Frederick the Great.' Except that 'The Early Kings of Norway,' though written

long before, was not published until 1874, and that he now and then sent an article to some magazine, Carlyle's career as a literary workman may be considered to have come to an end in 1865, when the last volume of 'Frederick' appeared.

The best account that we have of Carlyle as he showed himself in social intercourse and apart from his books, so far as he could be parted from them, during the years of his greatest activity, is from the pen of Margaret Fuller Ossoli. "His talk," she wrote in 1846,

"is an amazement and a splendour scarcely to be faced with steady eyes. He does not converse, only harangues. It is the usual misfortune of such marked men that they cannot allow other minds room to breathe and show themselves in their atmosphere, and thus miss the refreshment and instruction which the greatest never cease to need from the experience of the humblest. Carlyle allows no one a chance, but bears down all opposition, not only by his wit and onset of words, resistless in their sharpness as so many bayonets, but by actual physical superiority, raising his voice and rushing on his opponent with a torrent of sounds. This is not in the least from unwillingness to allow freedom to others. On the contrary, no man would more enjoy a manly resistance to his thought. But it is the nature of a mind accustomed to follow out its own impulse as the hawk its prey, and which knows not how to stop in the chase. Carlyle, indeed, is arrogant and overbearing; but in his arrogance there is no littleness, no self-love. It is the heroic arrogance of some old Scandinavian conqueror; it is his nature, and the untamable impulse that has given him power to crush the dragons. You do not love him, perhaps, nor revere; and perhaps, also, he would only laugh at you if you did; but you like him heartily, and like to see him, the powerful smith, the Siegfried, melting all the old iron in his furnace till it glows to a sunset red, and burns you if you senselessly go too near. He seems to me quite isolated, lonely as the desert; yet never was a man more fitted to prize a man, could he find one to match his mood. He finds them, but only in the past. He sings rather than talks. He pours upon you a kind of satirical, heroic, critical poem, with regular cadences, and generally catching up, near the beginning, some singular epithet, which serves as a refrain when his song is full. He sometimes stops a minute to laugh at himself, then begins anew with fresh vigour; for all the spirits he is driving before him seem to him as Fata Morganas, ugly masks, in fact, if he can but make them turn about; but he laughs that they seem to others such dainty Ariels."

If few men have shown more eccentricity in their writings, few have shown in the every-day affairs of life, and in their dealings with all coming in contact with them, the same temperament and character as were exhibited in their books. Uncouth in his bearing, dogmatic in his speech, there was in Carlyle transparent honesty and genuine kindness which endeared him to all who were so favoured as to know him in private. He was most punctilious as a host, and singularly courteous as a guest, always falling in with the ways of those he was visiting, though sometimes with an energy that was startling. When staying once with an old friend in Scotland, he was asked to conduct family prayers, and readily consented; but instead of prefacing the devotional exercise by a short chapter, according to custom, he read through the whole book of Job without stopping, to the amazement

of those who were present. If we had space we could here record many instances of overflowing good nature, prompted and guided by wonderful good sense, in curious harmony, if in apparent disagreement, with his more public attitude as a nineteenth century Puritan.

Carlyle's last important appearance in public was in April, 1866, when he delivered his installation address as Lord Rector of the University of Edinburgh. He was still in the northern capital when the news reached him of the sudden death of the good and faithful wife whom Edward Irving had found for him in 1826. He had to hasten to London, and thence to hasten back again to Scotland, in order to place her remains in the cathedral of her native town of Haddington.

The old house in Chelsea was thenceforward a more than half-empty house, though the old man's closing years were tended by a devoted niece, who latterly was aided in the affectionate office by her husband, the great man's nephew, and though he himself never allowed his abiding grief so to master him as to hinder any good work that he found left to him to do. Throughout his life he had suffered from indigestion, which showed its effects in occasional irritability, but except for this he was hale and active in body, bright and cheerful in mind. With a clear conscience and a good heart, he struggled with increasing infirmities, and death never came as a more natural ending of a worthy life than when he passed away last Saturday.

Carlyle's collected writings fill thirty large volumes, and treat of a wide range of subjects, though both in theme, or at any rate in purpose, and in treatment there is remarkable consistency from first to last. Whatever his immediate topic, one central thought ran through all his life and prompted all his work, whether it took the shape of history, criticism, or what may perhaps be called ethical discourse, and the manner no less than the matter of his writing was in harmony with that central thought. Rugged by nature, he tried, strangely enough, to educate himself in the school of Goethe, and all through the time in which he was known to the world as an author he showed himself as a transcendental Puritan of an altogether unique description. What his friend Sterling said of Teufelsdröckh, the hero of 'Sartor Resartus,' was to a great extent true of Teufelsdröckh's creator:—

"Wanting peace himself, his fierce dissatisfaction fixes on all that is weak, corrupt, and imperfect around him; and, instead of a calm and steady co-operation with all those who are endeavouring to apply the highest ideas as remedies for the worst evils, he holds himself in savage isolation."

Carlyle's isolation was savage in appearance rather than in reality, and even his isolation itself was only half real. There was almost an excess of sympathy in his temperament, curbed in some directions and allowed to run riot in others. He could not stand apart from the world which he loved while he thought that he was hating it. He did endeavour to apply his highest ideas as remedies for its worst evils, even when he denounced it as incurably diseased and already as good as dead. But he was

a fatalist, who believed it to be his destiny to fight against destiny. He spoke his own thoughts when he made Teufelsdröckh say:

"Our Life is compassed round with Necessity; yet is the meaning of Life itself no other than Freedom, than Voluntary Force; thus have we a warfare; in the beginning, especially, a hard-fought battle. For the God-given mandate, 'Work thou in Well-doing,' lies mysteriously written, in Promethean, Prophetic Characters, in our hearts, and leaves us no rest, night or day, till it be deciphered and obeyed; till it burn forth, in our conduct, a visible, acted Gospel of Freedom. And as the clay-given mandate, 'Eat thou and be filled,' at the same time persuasively proclaims itself through every nerve, must there not be a confusion, a contest, before the better Influence can become the upper?"

He described his own "somewhat peculiar view of Nature" when he referred to Teufelsdröckh's notion that "all Nature and Life are but one Garment, a 'Living Garment,' woven and ever a-weaving in the 'Loom of Time.'" He spoke of himself when he said of Teufelsdröckh:—

"The whole energy of his existence is directed through long years on one task, that of enduring pain if he cannot cure it. Amid so much tumultuous obscurity, almost like a diluted madness, do not a certain indomitable Defiance and yet a boundless Reverence seem to loom forth as the two mountain-summits on whose rock-strata all the rest were based and built?"

Defiance and Reverence were the two forces, working against one another, yet with a common purpose, in Carlyle's mind and inspiring all his work.

No man's style has been more characteristic. He imported into our language new words and forms of expression, of which some are still strange and uncouth, though others have been naturalized; but his mode of phraseology no less than his use of figures of speech was natural to him, though the apparent unnaturalness hinders the due recognition of his great mastery of language. If, like his modes of thinking, his modes of expressing his thoughts have had a marked effect on contemporary literature and produced a great many servile imitators, he can hardly be said to have been a slave to his own rules. His style, even when most extravagant, was not an affectation, but a reality. He wrote in eccentric ways only because he thought in eccentric ways; and his greatest eccentricities can be traced directly from the central idea of life and duty which has just been referred to. His was eminently, to use the adjective in its correct sense, a philosophical, but not at all a scientific, mind. In picturesque writing when at his best he is almost without a rival, especially in his use of similitudes and figures of contiguity, of apostrophe and irony. Even his stormiest and most "Titanic" outbursts will generally bear analysis, and be found to err in nothing but redundancy of expression, an error due to his intense desire to force his whole meaning upon his readers; as, for instance, in the following sentences from his 'Chartism':—

"It is in Glasgow among that class of operatives that 'Number 60,' in his dark room, pays down the price of blood. Be it with reason or with unreason, too surely they do in verity find the time all out of joint; this world for them no home, but a dingy prison-house, of reckless unthrift, rebellion, rancour, indignation against

themselves and against all men. Is it a green, flowery world, with azure everlasting sky stretched over it, the work and government of a God; or a murky, simmering Tophet, of copperas-fumes, cotton-fuz, gin-riot, wrath and toil, created by a Demon, governed by a Demon? The sum of their wretchedness, merited or unmerited, welters, huge, dark, and baleful, like a Dantean Hell, visible there in the statistics of Gin; Gin, justly named the most authentic incarnation of the Infernal Principle in our times, too indisputably an incarnation; Gin, the black throat into which wretchedness of every sort, communicating itself by calling on Delirium to help it, whirls down; abdication of the power to think or resolve, as too painful now, on the part of men whose lot of all others would require thought and resolution; liquid Madness sold at tenpence the quartern, all the products of which are and must be, like its origin, mad, miserable, ruinous, and that only!"

Carlyle's power as a descriptive writer is fairly illustrated by that passage. Of his narrative power nearly every page in his 'Frederick the Great' gives evidence. In portraiture and persuasive force he was hardly inferior. What, for instance, as regards the former, could be much better, in two lines, than his sketch of "Sage Leibnitz, a rather weak, but hugely ingenious old gentleman, with bright eyes and long nose, with vast black peruke and bandy legs"?

Of science, both physical and metaphysical, he was never tired of speaking contemptuously.

"Is this," he asked, "what thou namest 'Mechanism of the Heavens' and 'System of the World'; this, wherein Sirius and the Pleiades, and all Herschel's Fifteen-thousand Suns, per minute, being left out, some paltry handful of Moons and inert Balls had been looked at, nicknamed, and marked in the Zodiacal Way-bill; so that we can now prate of their Whereabout; their How, their Why, their What, being hid from us, as in the signless Inane? Systems of Nature! To the wisest man, wide as is his vision, Nature remains of quite infinite depth, of quite infinite expansion; and all Experience thereof limits itself to some few computed centuries and square-miles. The course of Nature's phases, on this our little fraction of a Planet, is partially known to us, but who knows what deeper courses these depend on; what infinitely larger Cycle (of causes) our little Epicycle revolves on? To the Minnow every cranny and pebble, and quality and accident, of its little native Creek may have become familiar; but does the Minnow understand the Ocean Tides and periodic Currents, the Trade-winds, and Monsoons, and Moon's Eclipses; by all which the condition of its little Creek is regulated, and may, from time to time (unmiraculously enough), be quite overset and reversed? Such a Minnow is Man; his Creek this Planet Earth; his Ocean the immeasurable All; his Monsoons and periodic Currents the mysterious Course of Providence through Æons of Æons."

Our greatest men of science have thought as modestly of their powers of fathoming the secrets of the universe; but their modesty has only inclined them to strive their utmost to find out all the little that they can. Carlyle looked upon such striving as almost impious. What right have we to tear the veil from the Holy of Holies? If even we can do it, what is there that our weak eyes can see?

"Like a God-created, fire-breathing Spirit-hoast, we emerge from the Inane, haste stormfully across the astonished Earth, then plunge again into the Inane. But whence? O Heaven, whither? Sense knows not; Faith knows not;

only that it is through Mystery to Mystery, from God and to God."

He naturally spoke far more scornfully of metaphysical than of physical research. Metaphysics to him was always "a disease."

"Metaphysical Speculation, as it begins in No or Nothingness, so it must end in Nothingness; circulates and must circulate in endless vortices; creating, swallowing—itsself! Which of your Philosophical Systems is other than a dream-theorem; a net quotient, confidently given out, where divisor and dividend are both unknown! What are your Axioms, and Categories, and Systems, and Aphorisms? Words, words. High Air-Castles are cunningly built of Words, the Words well bedded also in good Logic-mortar; wherein, however, no knowledge will come to lodge."

Carlyle hardly did service by protesting against the tendency, never very strong in England, to indulge in unprofitable speculations in a vain search for knowledge; but his own notion that knowledge is an inspiration, not a thing that can be acquired, not only led him into errors, but has encouraged men less wise to lose themselves in mazes from which he himself managed to escape. His theology, as his friend John Sterling said, resolved itself into "the conception of a formless Infinite, whether in time or space, of a high inscrutable Necessity, which it is the chief wisdom and virtue to submit to." His religion was a purely ethical religion, including in the term everything political and economical that he thought worthy of attention.

"In all situations out of Tophet, wherein a living man has stood or can stand," he said, "there is actually a prize of quite infinite value placed within his reach—namely a Duty for him to do. This highest Gospel forms the basis and worth of all other Gospels whatsoever."

And work, obedience, sincerity, were, in his reiterated teaching, to be the constant outcome of the sense of duty:—

"Do thy little stroke of work; this is Nature's voice, and the sum of all the commandments, to each man."

"Produce! Produce! Were it but the pitifullest infinitesimal fraction of a Product, produce it in God's name! Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy whole might."

"Laborare est orare—work is worship."

Again:—

"Obedience is our universal duty and destiny; wherein whoso will not bend must break."

"Obedience is the primary duty of man. No man but is bound indefeasibly with all force of obligation to obey."

Again:—

"Truth! though the Heavens crush me for following her! no Falsehood! though a whole celestial Lubberland were the price of Apostasy."

Excellent maxims these; but where are the rule and test of duty? How shall we know, amid all the opportunities of activity offered to us, what work is good in itself, which work is the best to be done? When can we know that it is proper to obey, when that we ought to resist, "though the Heavens crush" us? What, in the broadest as well as in the narrowest sense, shall be our criterion of truth? Carlyle did not trouble himself to answer these questions. He contented himself with sneers at "motive-grinders," "mechanical profit-and-loss philosophies," and the like. His own good sense and honest purpose for the most part kept him

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right; but he has left no rules for the guidance of his disciples. And we can see in his own case, though his life was as blameless as any man's can be, how his baseless theories sometimes led him widely astray. His reverence for work and his admiration of all successful work induced in him an adoration of power, merely as power, of which in his later years he found the fullest embodiment in Frederick of Prussia, whose worst deeds and blackest treacheries were to be regarded as heroic exploits solely because he was able to achieve them. His sympathy for all mankind came to be warped by his belief in the supremacy of law as made by self-appointed law-makers, and he hardened his heart against all who were not able to look after their own interests. Such fragmentary utterances as 'Shooting Niagara, and After?' such opinions as he avowed about the wisdom and necessity of slavery, about the Jamaica barbarities, and about "Beales and his fifty thousand Roughs," were dimly foreshadowed even in 'Sartor Resartus,' and a legitimate sequel to much that was said in 'Chartism' and 'Latter-Day Pamphlets.'

One of the best epigrams about Carlyle has been written by Mr. John Morley.

"Carlylism is the male of Byronicism," he says. "It is Byronicism with thew and sinew, bass pipe and shaggy bosom. There is the same grievous complaint against the time and its men and its spirits, something even of the same contemptuous despair, the same sense of the puniness of man in the centre of a cruel and frowning universe; but there is in Carlylism a deliverance from it all, indeed, the only deliverance possible. Its despair is a despair without misery. Labour in a high spirit, duty done, and right service performed in fortitudinous temper,—here was, not indeed a way out, but a way of erect living within."

#### CHAUCER'S GRANDFATHER.

3, St. George's Square, N.W., February, 1881.

As I have now seen Mr. Rye, and convinced him that my business in life for the last thirty years has been not "to resent any intrusion into the field of Chaucerian research," or any other work I have taken up, but, on the contrary, to shout loudly for helpers in it, and get out of them every jot of help they can be induced to give, I need hardly say that my former humorous call to my friend Mr. Scott to repent in sackcloth and ashes was misunderstood by Mr. Rye.

That gentleman's second letter to you will explain how easily oversights are made by the most careful of men, and how naturally by me who possess none of the three books that Mr. Rye supposed I owned, and who have had none of the Record training that he has had. I can only congratulate him on his discovery of Chaucer's grandfather, feel glad that he gives up Chaucer's supposed mother Joan and her supposed baby's early birth, and, lastly, thank him for the help that he has so kindly promised to give the Chaucer Society in future.

F. J. FURNIVALL.

P.S.—I find since that Mr. Greenstreet discovered some three years ago that Robert Chaucer, not Richard, was the father of John Chaucer, but he did not know (I believe) that John was the father of Geoffrey the poet.

#### INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT WITH AMERICA.

Feb. 1, 1881.

REFERRING to the paragraph on this subject in last Saturday's *Athenæum*, and the amendments therein mentioned as being suggested by the Board of Trade, it seems to me that there

is no legislation on this side required to carry those amendments into effect. There is at present no law to prevent an English author selling his rights to an American publisher, or to his having his book printed there and circulated here if he chooses to do so. The Americans do not require an international treaty to carry out such an arrangement. All they have to do is to pass an Act of their own, granting copyright to every English author who will print and publish his book in America and permit its circulation in Great Britain and the colonies. What the Board of Trade suggests is, in fact, to throw the printing and publishing of English books into the hands of American publishers and printers; and the said Board effectually closes the door to reciprocity by specially stipulating that "the provision requiring the manufacture of books to be in the country of publication be confined to the United States"! If the British Government approves of the suggestions of the Board of Trade it has only to convey them to the American Government, and in the interest of its own people that Government will doubtless adopt them. The small interest which American authors have or seem to have in being protected in this country will not weigh much against the enormous benefit voluntarily offered to the American public by the Board of Trade, especially as, in point of fact, they can now be protected by publishing here first. I suppose the Board imagines that by thus playing into the hands of American manufacturers the English reading public will be hugely benefited by the extraordinary cheapness which will result from the wide circulation which a book thus commanding two markets would obtain. That this is a delusion could easily be shown, but assuming it to be true in some solitary instances, why should such benefits be confined to American publishers and English readers? Is there any reason why the printing of books by American authors seeking copyright here should not on the same principle be confined to this country? The objection is so obvious that the Board of Trade could not venture even to suggest it. One has only to imagine the consequences of a new work by Lowell or Longfellow being compulsorily printed in this country and having free and sole circulation in the United States. The difficulties which must naturally result from such a one-sided, not to say suicidal, policy are apparent; the benefits are by no means so; whilst the suggestion to throw the manufacture of English books for English people into the hands of American manufacturers is one which it is to be hoped English authors would not be likely to encourage.

A good deal more might be said, but I am encroaching on your space too much already.

E. M.

#### Literary Gossip.

No less than three memoirs of Mr. Carlyle are in preparation. Mr. Froude will, we believe, bring out very speedily the fragment of autobiography left by Mr. Carlyle, and will reserve till a future period the publication of his biography of the Sage of Chelsea.

THE conference of authors and publishers summoned by the English Committee of the International Literary Association will be held this afternoon at the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society. A member of the honorary committee, which comprises Lord Beaconsfield, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Anthony Trollope, Mr. Froude, Mr. R. H. Horne, and Mr. McCullagh Torrens, will probably take the chair.

THERE have been several letters and articles in the daily papers respecting the proposed International Copyright treaty

with the United States, but in none is the important fact set forth that any American citizen whose work is printed in this country enjoys the same privileges of copyright as a native author. Mr. Evarts, the United States Secretary of State, seems to be unaware of this, judging from the statement he is reported to have made to Mr. Dion Boucicault. It is noteworthy that the present movement originated with the publishers of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, who are being treated by their brethren in other parts of the country as they used to treat British authors.

MISS THACKERAY has finished her monograph on Madame de Sévigné.

MR. EDMUND W. GOSSE will contribute to the March number of the *Cornhill* a memoir of Sir George Etherege, the dramatist, in which, on chronological grounds, a more important place in our literature than has hitherto been held by that poet will be claimed for him, and in which, for the first time, and chiefly from inedited MS. sources, his biography will be given with some precision and detail. In a MS. "Letter-Book" in the British Museum Mr. Gosse has found a store of unpublished matter, throwing new light on the history of Restoration literature, and proving, among other things, that the current story that Etherege fell downstairs at Ratisbon and broke his neck is without historical foundation.

THE Committee of the Athenæum Club have selected Prof. R. C. Jebb, General Sir Frederick S. Roberts, and Sir C. Wyville Thomson at the first election this year, under the special rule of the Club providing for the annual introduction of nine persons of distinguished eminence in science, literature, or the arts, or for public services.

It may be interesting to some people to know that when the late Mr. Gould finished his 'Century of Birds from the Himalaya Mountains,' he carried the MS. from publisher to publisher, and could not find any one bold enough to undertake it. He resolved after this to have no connexion with the Row, and although, when his fame was made, he had many offers from the trade, he persisted in being his own publisher, collected his subscribers himself, and personally superintended all the details of his splendid folios. The publishers had refused their aid when he needed it, and he would not accept of it when he had rendered himself independent of it.

MR. HENRY NICOL, who died at Algiers last week, would probably, had he lived, have gained high distinction as a student of the Romance languages. To the new edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' he contributed an excellent account of the French language.

AT the meeting of the London Association of Correctors of the Press on Monday last the relations of printers' readers to authors were fully discussed, after the recent correspondence in the *Athenæum* had been read. No formal resolutions were carried; but the following propositions, laid down by the introducer of the subject, are considered to express the opinion of the meeting:—

"1. The reader is the servant not of the author, but of the master printer, who pays him to find out the errors of compositors in putting MS. into type. 2. It is the reader's duty not to

look for authors' mistakes, but if he observe any he may 'query' them. Even this, however, is beyond the strict line of the duty for which he is paid. 3. The reader ought not to rectify authors' errors on his own responsibility, except in rare cases of emergency, because he thereby makes himself an unauthorized agent, running his employer's customer into expense without his knowledge or sanction."

MR. C. G. LELAND (Hans Breitmann) will contribute to the pages of *Fun* a series of articles, mostly in verse, and in some instances with illustrations from his own pencil, the first of which will appear on February 16th.

SYED AMEER ALI, author of the recent work on Mohammedan personal law, is engaged upon a monograph on the life and times of Saladin, the conqueror of Jerusalem, &c.

THE annual meeting of the English Dialect Society took place on Monday last in Manchester, under the presidency of the mayor of that city. The balance sheet and report were of a satisfactory character.

MR. LOUIS FAGAN has kindly pointed out to us that in the notices of Mr. A. W. E. O'Shaughnessy which have appeared in our contemporaries the dates of his appointment to the post which he held in the British Museum are incorrectly stated. He was appointed to the Printed Book Department on the 27th of June, 1861; promoted and transferred to the Natural History Department on the 5th of August, 1863.

THE lectures that have just been delivered in Glasgow by the Rev. Dr. Matheson, of Inellan, under the terms of the Baird Trust, and known as "The Baird Lecture," will be published immediately by Messrs. Nisbet & Co. The subject of the lectures is 'The Natural Elements of Revealed Theology.'

DR. ZIMMER, of Berlin, will shortly publish a volume of interest to Celtic scholars—an exact copy of three old Irish glossaries extant in Germany, upon a study of which in great measure Zeuss founded his 'Grammatica Celtica.' These are the Codex Paulinus of Würzburg, and the Codex Bedac and the Codex Prisciani of Carlsruhe. The volume will also contain a number of old Irish fragments from the MS. collections of Vienna, St. Gall, Bern, Turin, Rome, Nancy, and other libraries, which have all been recollated by Dr. Zimmer, and edited with critical notes. In an introduction he gives an account of the codices and fragments, their age and history, and a dissertation on the abbreviations in ancient Irish MSS.

AN edition of the Bible in the Sesuto language is now being printed in this country, under the personal supervision of the Rev. A. Mabile, a leading member of the French mission in Basutoland.

A NOTICE has been issued by the Royal Spanish Academy offering a *premio* in the shape of a gold medal for the best lyric or narrative composition devoted to the 'Glorificación de Calderon,' in each of the following languages—English, French, German, Danish or Swedish, modern Greek, Dutch, Italian, Polish, Hungarian, Bohemian, Portuguese, and Russian. The expenses of printing and publication of 1,000 copies will be borne by the Royal Spanish Academy. The successful author

will receive the medal, a diploma, and 500 copies as his honorarium. The terms and conditions are given at length in the Madrid *Epoca* of the 4th inst. The manuscript must be delivered not later than March 31st next.

ON the 3rd inst. there died at Dundee, in the fifty-ninth year of his age, Mr. Robert Mackenzie, author of 'America and her Army,' 'History of the United States,' 'History of the Nineteenth Century,' and other works. The deceased, who was formerly a merchant in Dundee, travelled a good deal latterly in the United States.

ACCORDING to the results of the entrance first examinations of the Calcutta University for last year, just published, 1,652 candidates out of 2,600, or about sixty per cent., passed. The examiners appear to have been more lenient than usual, as the average of successful candidates is forty per cent. 416 passed into the first and 940 into the second division, compared with 114 and 530 in the previous year.

A NEW Phœnician inscription, dated in the reign of Pumiathon, B.C. 320, has been found at Cyprus.

THE Director of the New Shakspeare Society informs us that he is printing a letter on the subject of his recent Forewords, "which he trusts will be found good-humoured and instructive; which supplies the main facts on which the case turns, omitted by Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps, explains how the terms applied to that writer were in part supplied by himself, and suggests a course for his future action." Mr. Furnivall will post a copy of the letter to any one sending him (to 3, St. George's Square, N.W.) an addressed halfpenny wrapper for it.

THE death of Cesare Cantù, the Italian historian, is announced.

THE Nestor of Swedish journalism, Wilhelm Fredrik Achates Dalman, died at Stockholm on the 1st inst., in his eightieth year.

THAT veteran novelist, Mr. Harrison Ainsworth, is writing a tale called 'Stanley Brereton,' which will appear in the provincial papers which "are supplied with fiction"—such, we believe, is the phrase—by Messrs. Tillotson, of Bolton.

By the death of Lord John Thynne, Westminster School becomes entitled, on the payment of 4,000*l.*, to the house which he occupied; but it is understood that, on account of the present state of the school, the governing body have decided not to avail themselves for the present of the powers of the Act, in order that the whole question as to the future of the school may be gone into.

THE present condition of the school may be easily inferred from the last report of the Head Master. There are now at Westminster 105 day boys and 112 boarders, but as 40 of the 112 are paid to be boarders, only 72 are voluntarily sent as boarders by their parents.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. inform us that, at the special request of Mr. Gladstone, they are about to issue a new edition of the series of essays on 'Systems of Land Tenure in Various Countries,' which were edited by Mr. J. W. Probyn, and published under the sanction of the Cobden Club.

## SCIENCE

MR. JOHN GOULD, F.R.S.

WORKING at his favourite study almost to the end, John Gould, one of the best known of modern ornithologists, passed away on the 3rd inst. For some time past, considering his age (seventy-seven years), the state of his health had given his friends grave cause for anxiety, but even so his death came upon them somewhat suddenly.

Born at Lyme, in Dorsetshire, in 1804, few men have made so much of originally scanty opportunities as John Gould. He removed in early life to the neighbourhood of Windsor, and there are some still living who can remember how he catered for the ornithological tastes of the Eton boys of that period; but whilst making both ends meet and carefully feeling his way, he was at the same time educating himself in the scientific branches of natural history. The first of the large series of illustrated folios with which his name will ever be associated was a 'Century of Birds from the Himalaya Mountains,' published in 1832, the plates in which were drawn and coloured by his wife, whose artistic talent was of the greatest service to him until her untimely death. Next came a 'Monograph of the Ramphastide' (Toucans), 1834, the 'Icones Avium,' 1837, a 'Monograph of the Trogonidae,' 1838, and the great work on the 'Birds of Europe,' 1837; in all of which the majority, if not the entirety, of the plates bear the mark of his wife's loving and skilful hand. With the publication of the last-named work Gould's reputation as an ornithologist was made, and assistance was proffered to enable him to proceed to Australia for the purpose of investigating its natural history. The result was that from being one of the principal European ornithologists he became the authority on Australia, and it is probably in this connexion rather than in any other that his name will be remembered by posterity. 'The Birds of Australia,' commenced in 1840, only bear the name of his wife on some of the plates, the rest being by the author and H. Richter. In 1844 appeared a 'Monograph of the Odontophorine' (American Partridges), and in 1849 the first number was published of his 'Monograph of the Trochilide or Humming Birds,' a supplement to which engaged his attention at the time of his death. Many will remember the exhibition of his superb collection of hummers, in the building now used as the parrot-house, at the Zoological Society's Gardens in 1851, and not a few have since then inspected them at his residence. These were his favourites; he positively gloated over them as he lovingly turned each case round on its pivot, and he has often assured the writer that with none of the illustrations did he ever take such pains as with those of the Trochilide. His next great completed works were the 'Birds of Great Britain' and the 'Mammals of Australia,' those on the 'Birds of Asia' and the 'Birds of New Guinea' being still unfinished at the time of his death.

Mr. Gould was elected a Fellow of the Zoological Society in 1840, and contributed largely to its *Proceedings* and to other scientific journals, the foregoing being, in fact, merely the enumeration of his principal illustrated works. A thorough sportsman and an accurate observer of nature in the field, he was no less keen in the cabinet in detecting specific distinctions which, in some cases, not only casual visitors but even trained ornithologists failed to estimate at the same value as he did. It will, however, be admitted on all sides that his magnificent works have given a great impulse to ornithological research, whilst tending to elevate the style of hand-coloured lithography, and his superb illustrated folios will long remain fitting memorials of a man who, whatever his hand found to do, did it with his might.

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## AN ARCTIC RECONNAISSANCE.

AN interesting Arctic reconnaissance was made last autumn in Behring Sea and in the Polar Ocean north of the straits by Capt. Hooper, of the American steamer Corwin. The object of the cruise was to discover some trace of Mr. Gordon Bennett's vessel, the Jeannette, and of two American whalers, the Vigilant and Mount Wollaston, which were also missing. The Corwin touched at Unalaska and Nunivak islands, and then proceeded to St. Michael's, a station of the Alaska Fur Company, situated in Norton Sound. The agent here informed the Americans that during the past season the Company's traders had journeyed as far as Kotzebue Sound and Point Hope, but without seeing any signs of the missing ships. St. Lawrence Island, which lies at the entrance to the straits, was reached on the 25th of June, and here Capt. Hooper found most melancholy signs of an appalling famine which had been raging there. Whole villages were deserted, and the corpses of the inhabitants lay scattered about. At the north-western extremity of the island three hundred natives were found still alive, but brought to such plight that they had consumed their dogs and even their walrus hides. Ice, snow, and continuous storms, so they said, had prevented any fishing, seal or walrus hunting, and had reduced them to the direst straits. At Plover Bay, on the south side of the Chukches Peninsula, the Corwin coaled, and after a fruitless attempt to reach Herald Island touched at King Island, and then returned to St. Michael's, where the ice and snow had by that time disappeared, and the hillsides were clothed with flowers and the air swarming with mosquitoes. Here the travellers fell in with a number of Indian traders, some of whom dwell far in the interior, and who, on the melting of the snows, bring down furs and skins to the coast in return for European goods. These Indians struck the Americans as being men of imposing physique and robust aspect, and many of them bore the scars of wounds received in bear-hunts. In Escholtz Bay a glacier was reconnoitred, and some coal deposits were examined in the vicinity of Cape Beaufort, after which the Corwin made several efforts to reach Herald Island, and eventually succeeded in getting within three or four miles of it. With the aid of a spy-glass Capt. Hooper could see that the island was composed of lofty rocks 800 feet high, rising sheer from the water's edge, and satisfied himself that no human beings were there. The Corwin then coasted along the American shore and fell in with the whaling fleet, after which she made her final push northward, and on the 11th of September came within twenty-five miles of Wrangel Land. Three snowy peaks, full 3,000 feet high, were descried on the southern side, and other mountains lay to the north. Capt. Hooper's opinion is that Wrangel Land is a large island stretching some distance northward. Large flocks of geese and other waterfowl pass Point Barrow every spring on their way northward and return with their young in August and September. Capt. Hooper was fearful of being hemmed in by the ice and returned, reaching St. Paul's Island on the 20th of September. He is fully of opinion that the two whalers had been wholly lost between Herald Isle and Herald Shoal. The Jeannette, according to a later report gathered from the natives by a whaling vessel which reached Petropaulovsk on the 12th of October, is supposed to have been also lost in the ice, but Capt. Hooper's expectation is that, being well equipped and in the hands of experienced officers, her successful return need not yet be despaired of. This opinion is endorsed by Sir Richard Collinson in a letter to the *New York Herald*, in which he gives his grounds for supposing that the Jeannette has either succeeded in pushing her way Pole-wards under the lee of Wrangel Land or else has pursued a north-easterly course towards the estuary of the Mackenzie River,

in which latter case some intelligence of her movements might be possibly gleaned by some of the Hudson Bay Company's traders.

## SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 3.—The President in the chair.—The Right Hon. M. E. Grant-Duff was elected a Fellow.—The following papers were read: 'On the Cause of the Striation of Voluntary Muscular Fibre,' by Mr. J. B. Huxley; 'Description of some Remains of the Gigantic Land-Lizard (*Megalania Prisca*, Owen) from Australia,' Part III, by Prof. Owen; 'On a Method of destroying the Effects of Slight Errors of Adjustment which may vitiate the Results of Experiments of Changes of Refrangibility due to Relative Motions in the Line of Sight,' by Mr. E. J. Stone; 'On an Improved Bimodular Method of computing Natural and Tabular Logarithms and Anti-Logarithms to 12 or 16 Places with very Brief Tables,' 'On the Potential Radix as a Means of calculating Logarithms to any required Number of Decimal Places, with a Summary of all preceding Methods Chronologically Arranged,' and 'On the Influence of Temperature on the Musical Pitch of Harmonium Reeds,' by Mr. A. J. Ellis.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 3.—H. Reeve, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The whole of the meeting was taken up by a carefully prepared account, by Mr. W. C. Borlase, of his extensive excavations in Cornish barrows. Mr. Borlase bears the perilous honour of a great name in the annals of archaeology, but his paper showed he was no unworthy descendant of the famous historian of Cornwall. The paper was chiefly valuable from the minute and detailed record it gave of the circumstances of each particular "find," and from the sobriety with which conclusions were drawn.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Feb. 2.—T. Morgan, Esq., in the chair.—The discovery of a portion of a Roman sepulchral slab at South Shields was reported by Mr. R. Blair. It represents a moulded pediment with heads in high relief, and is similar in workmanship to the celebrated slab with the Palmyrene inscription found in the same locality, the site of the cemetery of the Roman station.—Mr. De Gray Birch read a description by Admiral Wood of another Roman tomb at Yllora, Spain, on the estate of the Duke of Wellington (see *Athen.* No. 2773), and of a massive gold ring with a dolphin cut on a blue stone found in a large coffin at the same place.—Miss Brocklehurst and Miss Booth sent for exhibition a series of drawings of the new Grange tumulus.—Mr. G. R. Wright described a memorial stone supposed to be of a chieftain of the Arthurian period. The slab was found at Yarrow, and a cast of it is in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.—Mr. L. Brock communicated the discovery of Roman architectural work on the site of a bastion of London Wall recently met with in Houndsditch. These consist of a well-wrought base of a column and part of the shaft of a diapered column of bluestone.—Mr. Watkins produced elaborate drawings of the Roman city wall, Houndsditch, recently removed for a length of about 70 ft. The walling, which was 8 ft. thick, was faced with squared stone, with bands of red tiles and a chamfered plinth of dark ironstone, and of great strength and regularity.—Mr. Grover described a remarkable find of Roman remains on the premises of Messrs. Tyler, Warwick Square (see *Athen.* No. 2780).—The first paper was by Mr. Butcher, descriptive of the progress of the exploration of the Roman villa at Bromham made by Mr. Cunningham and himself.—The second paper was by Dr. Phené, 'On some recent Excavations made into the Mounds of the Troad.' The results were reported by the lecturer in detail.

ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Feb. 3.—J. Hilton, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. F. C. J. Spurrell made some remarks on a collection of implements of successive ages from the river-drift, cave or rock shelter, and neolithic times, lent by Sir J. Lubbock and Mr. B. Harrison, and found at Oldbury, Ightham, Kent.—Mr. J. P. Harrison read a paper 'On Incised Outlines of Fish and other Early Marks in the Crypt of Gloucester Cathedral.'—Mr. Burges, the Rev. E. M. Blakiston, and others took part in a discussion which followed, from which it would appear that masons at all periods, as at the present time, used distinctive marks to indicate the work for which they were to be paid. But such workmen's marks seem to be totally different things from some of the figures to which Mr. Harrison called attention, and of which the real significance is by no means clear at present.—Mr. J. G. Waller offered some observations on the well-known brass of John de Northwode and Joan his wife from the church of Minster, Isle of Sheppey.—Mr. W. Huxley sent some notes upon two remarkable helmets, one from Petworth Church, exhibited by permission of Lord Leonfield, a tilting

helm of the early part of the sixteenth century, and probably an unfinished piece of armourers' work, bought on an emergency for the funeral pageant of Sir J. Dawtry, over whose tomb it hangs, and who died in 1527. The second helm, exhibited by the Rev. W. Fiennes Trotman, has hung for many years in Wimborne Minster, over the tomb of John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, who died in 1444. Mr. Huxley was, however, able to show that the helm belongs to a time between 1480 and 1520, and that it is of the kind used for the tourney and for fighting on foot at the barriers. Its original possessor is not known. The "bellows-visor" is a noticeable feature in this fine example of armourers' work.—Mr. Burges gave a technical description of a once very beautiful peaked helmet, with a camail bearing the Constantinople armoury mark, and forming a portion of the armour that came to this country from Turkey about forty years ago.—Mr. E. Peacock exhibited a bronze mortar, bearing an obscure inscription, and a pestle, and contributed some notes on mortars in general.—Mrs. Lovell sent a globe of crystal of large size and great beauty; and Mr. H. R. H. Gosselin exhibited a pair of silver-mounted and inlaid pistols, *temp.* Queen Anne, by a celebrated Scotch maker at Doune.—It was announced that the annual meeting of the Institute will be held at the end of July at Bedford.

LINNEAN.—Feb. 3.—R. MacLachlan, Esq., in the chair.—Lieut.-Col. A. A. Davidson was elected a Fellow.—A paper by Mr. G. Benthall was read, 'Notes on Cyperaceæ, with special reference to *Lestiboudouia*'s *Essai on Beauvois's Genera*.'—Observations on the Life Histories of *Gamasine* was a paper read by Mr. A. D. Michael. He avers that the remarkable power of darting each mandible separately with speed and accuracy of aim far in advance of the body, the powerful retractile muscles attached to these mandibles, the organization of the remainder of the mouth, the extreme swiftness of the creatures, the use of the front legs as tactile organs only, and not for the purposes of locomotion, and the ample supply of tactile hairs in front only, seem in all to fit the animals for a predatory life. They point to habits similar to those of *Cheyletus* and *Trombidium* rather than to those of the true vegetable feeders, such as the *Oribatidæ* and *Tetramachi*. He supports M. Megnin as to many so-called species being but immature stages; he thinks division of dorsal plate a weak character for classification, their alteration in size and form being related to development; he differs from Megnin as to *G. coleopterorum* being the nymph of *G. erasipis*; and he has not observed an inert stage before transformations or skin-casting.—Two papers on the coffee-leaf disease were read, one by Mr. W. Bidie, the other by Dr. M. C. Cooke. In the former the author refers to the Coorg district in India, where the disease was first noticed four years ago, and believed to have been introduced from Ceylon by way of Mysore. It seems worst in impoverished exposed lands and least where there is shade and rich soil. A small red insect has been observed, but what its relations to the disease are is undetermined. A system of "renovation-pitting" has been successfully tried; pits are dug at intervals, wherein after judicious pruning all affected leaves are buried, which precaution seems to check the spread of the disease, especially among trees of Coorg origin. In the second paper Dr. Cooke describes and summarizes the data extant at present concerning the progress of coffee disease in South America, where plantations in Venezuela, Costa Rica, Bogota, Caracas, and Jamaica have been affected. He is of opinion that there the disease is a complicated one, being himself as yet unprepared to affirm that the Septoria, the Sphaerella, or the Stilbum (three so-called different kinds of fungi), or all together, is the true cause of the disease. At the same time he thinks it possible that none of these forms of fungus is autonomous, and that all may be related to each other as forms or conditions of the same fungus, of which Sphaerella is the highest and most perfect manifestation.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 1.—Prof. W. H. Flower, President, in the chair.—Papers and letters were read: by Mr. F. M. Balfour, on the evolution of the placenta, and on the possibility of employing the characters of this organ in the classification of the mammals,—by Mr. Slater, on some birds collected by Mr. E. F. Im Thurn in British Guiana, amongst which was an example of a new species of *Agelaius*, proposed to be called *A. im-Thurni*, after its discoverer,—by Mr. W. T. Blanford, on a collection of reptiles and frogs made at Singapore by Dr. W. B. Denny: in this collection were two new species of Ophidians, which were named respectively *Cylindrophis lineatus* and *Simotes Dennyi*, and two new frogs, which the author proposed to call *Rana laticeps* and *Rhacophorus Dennyi*,—by Mr. A. D. Bartlett, on a peculiar habit of the darter (*Plotos ankinga*) in casting up parts of the epithelial lining

of its stomach,—from Mr. A. H. Cocks, on the breeding of otters,—by the late Mr. A. O'Shaughnessy, on a large collection of lizards made by Mr. C. Buckley in Ecuador; twenty-seven species were mentioned, ten of which were new,—by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, on a new species of *Erythrinus* in the Brussels Museum, from Ecuador, which he proposed to name *Erythrinus O'Shaughnessyi*,—and by Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen, on the land shells of the species of Cyclostomacea collected on the island of Socotra by Prof. I. B. Balfour.

**CHEMICAL.**—Feb. 3.—Dr. Gladstone, V.P., in the chair.—It was announced that a ballot for the election of Fellows would take place at the next meeting.—The following papers were read: 'On the Estimation of Organic Carbon in Air,' by Drs. Dupré and Hake.—'On the Action of the Copper-zinc Couple upon Nitrates, and the Estimation of Nitric Acid in Water Analysis,' by Mr. M. W. Williams. Some strips of clean zinc foil are placed in a wide-mouthed stoppered bottle, and covered with a 3 per cent. solution of copper sulphate; when the zinc has acquired a sufficient coating of copper, the solution is poured off, and the copper-zinc couple washed. The water to be analyzed is then poured on the couple, and allowed to remain for some hours at 24° C., after the addition of a little pure sodium chloride. The nitrates are thus completely converted into ammonia, which is estimated by Nesslerizing.—'On the Position taken by the Nitro Group on nitrating the Dibromotoluenes,' and 'On some of the various Derivatives of Toluene and the Toluolides,' by Messrs. R. Neville and A. Winther.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Feb. 8.—Mr. Abernethy, President, in the chair.—A paper 'On the Temporary Works and Plant at the Portsmouth Dockyard Extension,' by Mr. C. H. Meyer, was read.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—Feb. 7.—Dr. W. Bowman, V.P., in the chair.—Miss A. F. Dubort, Mrs. C. Gabriel, Mrs. E. F. Hight, Lieut.-Col. L. W. Longstaff, Dr. E. W. Lane, Messrs. R. H. Few, T. Gabriel, J. H. Knight, W. F. Larkins, and A. Vacher were elected Members.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—Feb. 7.—The opening lecture of a course of three lectures 'On Watchmaking' was given by Mr. E. Rigg.

Feb. 9.—Sir P. C. Owen in the chair.—A paper 'On the Present Condition of the Art of Wood Carving in England' was read by Mr. J. H. Pollen. The paper was illustrated by specimens of wood carving, lent for the purpose by the recently established National School of Art Wood Carving and by others.

**ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—Jan. 25.—Anniversary Meeting.—Dr. E. B. Tylor, F.R.S., President, in the chair.—Dr. E. B. Tylor, the retiring President, gave the annual address. He described the excellent arrangements in the United States for supplying Indian agents, missionaries, and others in contact with native tribes, with manuals to guide them in collecting information as to laws, customs, languages, religion, &c., the very memory of which will die out with the present generation of Indians. He contrasted the active intelligence of the United States in this with the fact that the Dominion of Canada, though kindly and wise in their practical management of the Indians, do not seem alive to the value of the scientific knowledge which is being lost among them for want of a little cost and trouble in collecting it. Dr. Tylor also spoke of Prof. Flower's study of the mountaineers of Fiji, the Kai Colo, a race who have the narrowest skulls of all mankind. The public have not yet become aware of the value of minute measurement of skull dimensions, but Prof. Flower has clearly shown in it a means of bringing the study of races under arithmetical calculation, a step which will do much to bring anthropology among the exact sciences.—The new President is Major-General Pitt Rivers.

**ARISTOTELIAN.**—Jan. 31.—S. H. Hodgson, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. S. Oliver read a paper 'On Leibnitz,' which was followed by a discussion.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Troubadours,' Mr. F. Hueffer.
- London Institution, 5.—'Fruits and Seeds,' Sir J. Lubbock.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Watchmaking,' Lecture II., Mr. B. Rigg (Cantor Lecture).
- Institute of British Architects, 8.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Architecture,' Mr. G. B. Street.
- Aristotelian, 8.—'Berkley,' Mr. W. C. Barlow.
- Geographical, 8.—'Geographical and Physical Aspects of Sarawak and North Borneo,' Mr. W. M. Crocker.
- Tues. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Blood,' Prof. Schäfer.
- Statistical, 7.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—'Discussion on Messrs. Colson and Meyer's Papers on "Portsmouth Dockyard Extension Works."'
- English Spelling Reform Association, 8.—'Sound and Unsound Spellings,' Mr. H. B. Wheatley.
- Zoological, 8.—'Additions to the Society's Menagerie during January,' the Secretary; 'Coleopterous Insects belonging to the Family Heliidae, collected by Mr. Buckley in Ecuador,' Mr. C. O. Waterhouse.

- Wed. Meteorological, 7.—'Relative Humidity,' Mr. C. Greaves; 'The Frost of January, 1891, over the British Isles,' Mr. W. Marriott.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Participation of Labour in the Profits of Enterprise,' Mr. S. Taylor.
- Thurs. Royal Institution, 3.—'Drawing-Room Music,' Prof. Fauer.
- Royal, 4.
- Numismatic, 7.
- London Institution, 7.—'Violins,' Rev. H. R. Hawels.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Architecture,' Mr. G. B. Street.
- Linnean, 8.—'British Fishes,' Dr. F. Day; 'Right and Left Hand Conformation of the Corolla,' Mr. C. B. Clarke; 'New Form of Sponge,' Prof. P. M. Duncan; 'Reparative Processes which occur in Vegetable Tissues,' Mr. S. G. Shattock.
- Chemical, 8.—'Election of Fellows; New Apparatus for showing the Dissociation of Ammonium Salts,' Mr. D. Tommasi; 'Estimation of Organic Carbon and Nitrogen in Water Analysis simultaneously with the Estimation of Nitric Acid,' Mr. M. W. Williams.
- Antiquaries, 8.—'Inaccuracies in the Ordinary Accounts of the Early Years in the Reign of King Edward IV.,' Dr. C. S. Percival.
- Fri. Geological, 1.—Anniversary.
- United Service Institution, 3.—'Recent Visit to Kuldja, and on the Russo-Chinese Frontier,' Mr. E. D. Morgan.
- Philological, 8.—'Pronunciation, Grammar, and Non-Literary Vocabulary of Welsh, Part II.,' Mr. H. Sweet.
- Royal Institution, 8.—'Fruits and Seeds,' Sir J. Lubbock.
- Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'Ancient Egypt,' Mr. B. S. Poole.

#### Science Gossip.

A REUTER'S telegram from Washington states that the United States Senate on February 4th passed a resolution appropriating 175,000 dollars for the purpose of fitting out a vessel to be sent in search of Mr. Gordon Bennett's exploring expedition in the Jeannette, which is thought by some to be shut up in the ice in the Arctic regions, in company with some missing whaling vessels.

A MEETING was to be held on Friday in which the wisdom of the Government grant of 4,000*l.*, distributed by the Royal Society, was to be considered. Most scientific men of any eminence consider that the grant has done more harm than good.

PROF. A. LEITH ADAMS has been elected President of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland.

THE planet Venus will beat her greatest eastern elongation from the sun about noon on the 20th inst. Her close apparent proximity to Jupiter next week will be very conspicuous.

MR. ALEXANDER ADAMS, of the Post Office Telegraph Department, is said to have proved the existence of tidal movements in the electricity of the telegraph wires. He communicated this discovery to the Society of Telegraph Engineers on the 10th inst.

WE have received the Reports of the Mining Surveyors and Registrars of Victoria for the quarter ending September 30th, 1880. From these we find the gold from alluvial deposits amounted in the quarter to 82,051 oz., and from the quartz mines to 139,963 oz.

FATHER DEUZA, the Italian astronomer, has been making some experiments with the micro-telephone on the line of railway from Turin to Lanzo, which is about twenty miles long. The voice was distinct and clear, and so strong that it was heard all over the room at Lanzo. "Conversation between the two interlocutors was as animated as if they had been in the same place."

CHARLES FREDERIC KUHLMANN died at Lille the week before last. He was born at Colmar in 1803, studied chemistry under Vauquelin at Strasbourg, and was in 1832 elected Professor of Applied Chemistry at Lille. In 1879 Kuhlmann collected his numerous researches and published them in a large volume.

M. OSWALD HEER was nominated at the Séance of the Académie des Sciences on January 24th as Correspondent for the Botanical Section, to replace the late M. Schimper.

A "GOLD INSTITUTE" is about to be established with three departments, practical, chemical, and mechanical. Mr. Lock has offered his books on metallurgy and his illustrative specimens to the Institute.

It is reported from Turin that the phosphorescent paint may be mixed with printing ink, by which the letters become luminous in the dark. It is said that a new daily paper is to be published at Turin, in which the luminous ink is to be employed.

It should be remembered that the Association Française pour l'Avancement des Sciences will

meet at Algiers on April 14th next, M. Chauveau being President and M. Janssen Vice-President. All information relative to the Congress can be obtained from the Secretary, 76, Rue de Rennes, Paris.

PROF. E. S. HOLDEN, of the United States Naval Observatory, is publishing through the Smithsonian Institution a subject index and synopsis of the scientific writings of Sir William Herschel. This work will be very useful for the scientific student of astronomy; but Prof. Holden has laid the general reader also under his debt by the publication (through Messrs. Scribner) of a valuable biography of that "greatest of practical astronomers," the story of whose life can never cease to be interesting.

M. AUG. CHARPENTIER, in a note communicated to the Académie des Sciences by M. A. Vulpian, deals with the curious question 'Sur la Quantité de Lumière nécessaire pour percevoir la Couleur d'Objets de différentes Surfaces.' It is not possible to give an abstract which will be intelligible. M. Charpentier, however, arrives at the conclusion that "la sensibilité chromatique est indépendante de la surface rétinienne excitée." We cannot but think this requires a yet more exact examination.

#### FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—THE EXHIBITION OF WORKS BY THE OLD MASTERS and by Deceased Masters of the Royal School, including a Collection of Drawings by John Flaxman, R.A., is NOW OPEN.—Open from Nine till Eleven. Catalogues, 6*d.*; or bound in cloth, with Fencil, 1*s.* Season Tickets, 5*s.*

THE GROSVENOR GALLERY.—EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND DECORATIVE DESIGNS by Living Artists NOW OPEN. Daily, Ten to Six.—Admission, 1*s.*; Season Tickets, 1*s.*

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION, including a Loan Collection of Works by the late George Hodgson, is NOW OPEN. 5, Pall Mall East, from Ten till Five. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE FIFTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary. Gallery, 33, Pall Mall, S.W.

DORIS GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM,' and 'MOSES before PHARAOH,' each 33 by 22 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'A Day Dream,' 'Rainbow Landscape' (Loch Carron, Scotland), &c., at the DORIS GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1*s.*

#### ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

Cambridge: *Brief Historical and Descriptive Notes.* By J. W. Clark. (Seeley, Jackson & Halliday.)—This handsome volume comprises the substance of a series of papers published in the *Portfolio* and the etchings which accompanied them, and which were executed by MM. Brunet-Debaines, Toussaint, and Greux. The book is very readable and carefully written; in fact it forms a concise and satisfactory history of Cambridge and its colleges and their inmates. Although some of the plates seem not the better for wear, the best examples are very good indeed, especially those which have most of the characteristic "mossy" touch of M. Brunet-Debaines, a mode of handling which produces part of the effect of mezzotint without the blurred and boneless aspect of the latter process. The most commendable of this class is "The Cam near Trinity College," with the dark mirror of the water, the darker and brilliant reflections of the lofty trees, and the square "embattled" tower of the college. The best etching is the first-rate "Interior of King's College Chapel." The gateway of "Corpus," with its neighbouring double gables, is happily represented in another plate. This book forms a sequel to Mr. Lang's 'Oxford,' which was issued by the same publishers.

*Views in Southern Afghanistan* (Brooks, Day & Son) have been drawn from sketches by Lieut. J. F. Irwin, 59th Regiment, while serving in that country, reproduced in lithography by the publishers, and they consist of tinted sketches of localities visited by our troops. Among them are the cantonments at Candahar, in the distance of which appear the tremendous mountain peaks which have astonished men for

many ages. Kelat-i-Ghilzai Fort, an extensive and picturesque structure, impregnable from its position before the invention of cannon, is another and much more picturesque view. The Gwajur Pass and the Bolan Pass and Old Candahar are good subjects, all of which have been treated in the manner to be expected when the slight sketches of an amateur are reproduced in the offices of a London lithographer.

*Bryant's First and Last Poems*: 1. *Thanatopsis*; 2. *The Flood of Years*, as illustrated by Mr. W. J. Linton, has been published by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co., and comprises, besides the popular verses, sundry pretty illustrations, some of which are free adaptations, their borrowed character being admitted in general terms, from W. Blake and D. Scott. The frontispiece to 'Thanatopsis' shows a picturesque mode of treating one of Blake's well-known works; but it was like gilding refined gold to reproduce that noble design in this unsympathetic and attractive fashion. We would rather have had something that was all Mr. Linton's. A cut of a churchyard in winter, with figures bending over a grave, is very good, so far as it goes. One or two designs, comprising the sea and clouds only, show a genuine inspiration, but we do not like the frontispiece to 'The Flood of Years,' where the notion of a giant in the clouds being represented is puerile. "The Shadow of Death," a design of which the chief element is the top of the phantom's coroneted head, is so preposterously artificial as to be offensive.

*Fra Bartolommeo: Andrea del Sarto*. By L. Scott. (Sampson Low & Co.)—The illustrations in this little volume are of such slight value that, with one or two unimportant exceptions, they might as well have been omitted. The book itself is one of the series called "The Great Artists." It is compiled with tact, and shows considerable care and a sound appreciation of the painters in question; it is free from pedantry, and, although easy to read, is comprehensive, and, so far as we have been able to test it, is accurate. Its shortcoming is the author's tendency to indulge in emotional disquisitions, many of which are slightly exaggerated in their tone, if not incorrect in their conclusions. Mrs. Scott has exercised commendable industry in searching for details, and has thus been able to impart to her work an air of truth which is acceptable. For example, on p. 9 reference is made to the statement of Messrs. Cavalcaselle and Crowe that Suffignano, near Florence, is the birthplace of Baccio della Porta himself. "But," says Mrs. Scott, "on consulting the Post-Office authorities we find no place called Suffignano near Florence; it must, therefore, have been a village near Prato called Soffignano, which from similarity of sound Vasari confused with the larger place, Savignano. This is the more probable, because Rossini asserts that B. da Majano, who had bought a *podere* near Prato, knew him (F. Bartolommeo), and took him into his affections, and by his means placed him with Cosimo" (Roselli, the master of the Frate). In short, Mrs. Scott in both these biographies strives after local colour and dwells on personal incidents. There is no account of the life and art of F. Bartolommeo in English that approaches this one.

#### NEW PRINTS.

MESSRS. THOMAS AGNEW & SONS have published the noble etching by M. Rajon reproducing one of Mr. Watts's masterpieces, his portrait of Herr Joachim with the violin. We reviewed the new etching on the 20th of November last (*Athen.* No. 2769, p. 680, col. 2).

From the same publishers we have received an artist's proof impression of the above plate, and also another artist's proof from a plate engraved by Mr. Francis Holl after Mr. Frank Holl's three-quarters-length portrait of Signor Piatti, seated, with a violoncello before him. It is a solid, firm, and crisply drawn figure; the likeness is excel-

lent, and, if somewhat prosaic, yet not at all devoid of animation—in fact, it is full of character. The modelling is rather hard, so that the shadows on the face and figure need fusion with the light; the half tints are not so well developed as they might be. On the whole, however, those who desire a thoroughly good likeness of the distinguished musician will find in this engraving what they want.

The Fine-Art Society has sent us an impression before all letters from a very fine, careful, and effective etching by Mr. H. Gibbs, entitled 'Battersea,' and depicting the poetical effect of full moonlight and a cloudy, not obscured, sky over the Thames. A quick, not boisterous, breeze and a flowing tide propel a large barge on her path across the moon's brilliant reflection on the river, where she is dividing the lustrous space with her own dark "blowing" sails and darker hull. A wooden pier is in the front, where various lighters and barges are moored; the sails of the former are furling, and the craft are so placed that the black rigging stands sharply against the half-illuminated portion of the sky. In tone and "colour" these elements could not well be better. The further bank of the river supplies the distance of the design; it is a line of buildings and chimneys, with a tower or two. One tower bears the shining dial of an illuminated clock, another tower sustains the spire of Battersea Church. In this dark mass of buildings a few lamps shine, and their reflections, piercing the gloom, form tracks of lustre across the water. The whole is a praiseworthy exercise in the school of Mr. Samuel Palmer, and it embodies poetical impressions analogous to those to be found in 'The Early Ploughman,' 'The Lonely Tower,' 'The Shepherd,' &c. It would have been better if the sailing barge had been drawn with a little more care, and if the rigging of the moored craft had been larger. The lustre of the river and the richness of the sky are charming, so are the varieties of the dark, darker, and darkest tones of the print.

#### ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN EGYPT.

Cairo, January, 1881.

ALL who are interested in the conservation of ancient monuments in Egypt will be glad to learn that, by order of the Khedive, guardians are henceforth to be appointed for all the chief temples, tombs, &c., in the country. The guard will in each case consist of an officer and a number of men proportioned to the area to be covered. The sum of 2,000*l.* has been allotted for this purpose by a special provision in the budget for the forthcoming year. It may be stated that the Khedive takes a personal interest in the antiquities scattered through his dominions, and is sincerely anxious to save them from such wanton damage as they have undoubtedly suffered even in recent times. It is hoped that, as the finances of the country improve, capital will be found for the erection of ring-walls round the principal sites: in that case a small capitation fee levied on all visitors would probably remove the necessity for any permanent charge on the revenues of Egypt.

The condition of mediæval monuments is also receiving attention. The state of ruin and decay into which the tombs of the Mamelukes, the tombs of the Khalifs, and many old mosques have fallen is most deplorable, and the mischief is in too many cases irreparable. But native opinion is being led to understand and to deplore, and measures will be taken, as opportunity serves, at least to arrest further destruction. Too much must not be expected at once; but with the enlightened encouragement and authority of the Khedive, a good beginning will be made.

There is another little piece of good news: the order has just been given to repair the road to the Pyramids. The last mile has long been impassable, and the road in other places was tiresome or dangerous. A small toll might very well be levied to keep the way in permanent order.

ALFRED J. BUTLER.

#### SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 4th and 5th inst. the following from the collection of the late Mr. J. Giles:—Engravings: W. Blake, Chaucer's *Canterbury Pilgrims*, 35*l.* Turner's 'Liber Studiorum'—Twickenham, Pope's Villa, 23*l.*; Inverary Castle and Town, 22*l.*; *Æsacus* and *Hesperie*, 107*l.*; Ben Arthur, 55*l.* Drawings: W. Blake, "Teach these souls to fly," 2*l.* 6*s.* S. Palmer, *The Harvest Moon*, and a *Landscape with Sheep*, 2*l.* 10*s.*; Study of a Woody Hill and Slate Mountain near Festiniog, 1*l.* 10*s.*; A View in Kent, 4*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; Cherry Beach, Kent, 2*l.* 2*s.*; A View in Kent, 4*l.* 4*s.*; A Landscape, with a Bridge (pen), 1*l.* 1*s.*; A Landscape (pen and ink), and two Landscapes (sepia), 2*l.* 5*s.*; A Landscape, 1*l.* 5*s.* Pictures: "Twilight," 162*l.*; *The Gleaning-Field*, 141*l.*; A Hop Garden, 22*l.*; *The Repose of the Holy Family*, 16*l.* 16*s.*; *The Mowers' Return*, 8*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*; *The Rising of the Lark*, 89*l.*; *The Bright Cloud*, 100*l.* 16*s.*; *Coming from Evening Church*, 6*l.* 6*s.*

On the 5th inst. the same auctioneers also sold the following pictures from various collections: Titian, *The Virgin and Child*, in a Landscape, St. John presenting a Cross, St. Catherine kneeling at his side, 162*l.* G. Vincent, *The Thames below Greenwich*, 304*l.*; A View on the Thames, with Boats at a Jetty, 120*l.* J. Van Goyen, A Dutch Town on the Bank of a River, with a Ferry-Boat, Figures, and Cattle, 210*l.* T. Sidney Cooper, A River Scene, with Cows, Evening, 472*l.* D. Teniers, Interior of a Cabaret, 173*l.* G. Romney, Lady Hamilton, 173*l.* Lancret, A Fête Champêtre, 131*l.*

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

At the opening of the Winter Exhibition of the Royal Academy the galleries were lighted at dusk, but during the bitter weather which prevailed in January the attendance was so scanty that the practice was dropped. The lighting has now been begun again, and will be continued every evening till the close of the exhibition in March.

A SERIES of etchings of Mr. Carlyle have for some time been in process of execution by Mr. Howard Helmick. They are reproductions of authentic and unpublished portraits and sketches in the possession of the philosopher's family; and, covering a period of about fifty years, they show him in the more intimate aspects of his home life—at ease in his garden and at work in his study. These etchings, which are six in number, will be immediately issued by the Etchers' Society.

Two new exhibitions will be opened to the public on Monday next. Messrs. Agnew will show their annual selection of water-colour drawings at the Old Bond Street galleries, and the Spring Exhibition of Water-colour Drawings, Hanover Gallery, will be visible at 47, New Bond Street.

MR. FORD MADOX BROWN has almost completed his picture representing the expulsion of the Danes from Manchester, one of the series he has in hand for, and has painted on the wall of, the Town Hall, Manchester. We have already described at some length the cartoon made for this painting by the artist.

We have received from Messrs. G. Falkner & Sons, Manchester, a little tract containing "Ye Old-Style Valentines," a collection of pretty designs painted on cards, and suited with dainty verses by various English poets, such as Drayton, Donne, Carew, and Sidney, all composed in honour of St. Valentine and his votaries. We commend them "kindly" to the "men and maids" whom they concern.

MESSRS. P. & D. COLNAGHI & Co., who recently bought the plate of Blake's 'Canterbury Pilgrims,' and find it to be in good condition, intend to print from it and publish impressions.

AN exhibition is announced to open in May next, in galleries at 103A, New Bond Street. The exhibition is intended to illustrate the decorative arts of all kinds. The main object proposed is to obtain for the decorative artist and art workman some measure of that publicity which is secured by the practitioner in the major arts. Further information may be had by intending exhibitors on application to the director of the exhibition, Mr. Thos. J. Gullick.

THE death is announced of Mr. J. Miln, of Murie, author of 'Excavations at Carnac,' a valuable account of his remarkable discoveries at the Bossenno (*Athen.* No. 2603, pp. 341-2). At the time of his death he had just completed the revision of a new work giving the results of his investigations at Carnac since 1877.

WE have received from Messrs. Macmillan & Co. the second annual issue of Mr. M. B. Huish's handy book called 'The Year's Art,' 1881. It contains a vast deal of matter important to English artists and all concerned with the art and artists of this country. The volume has been much increased in bulk as well as in value, and now includes an almanac, notices of museums, lists of sales, the Copyright Act in full, accounts of exhibitions in London and the country, details concerning the Science and Art Department and its schools, art clubs, art unions, art charities, and obituaries; the last are very brief, and, if they are not enlarged, they might well contain references to publications which afford fuller accounts. There are scraps of news included in these notices, e.g., that the late Mr. Tom Taylor was "the acknowledged leader of London art critics," and that Mr. J. C. Moore was a painter first of portraits and latterly of landscapes. The directory of artists is copious and useful; it is susceptible of improvement by the addition of names of persons who have exhibited works before 1880. Of course, such a book contains errors. For instance, Mr. Woolner is not, nor has been for several years, Professor of Sculpture in the Royal Academy (see p. 197).

AMONG the works destined for the next *Salon* the French papers describe the following. M. E. Lamy, the well-known painter of Breton coast scenery, will send a view of 'Mont St. Michel,' which is already much admired. M. Vuillefroy, the animal painter, will exhibit a 'Chevaux à l'Abreuvoir,' M. Pelouse a 'Sous Bois.' M. Veyrassat has depicted one of his customary subjects in 'Chevaux de Halage,' a scene on a towing-path. M. François, whose 'Fin d'Automne' most people remember, will contribute 'Lavoir à Pierrefonds' and a view of the Lake of Albano. M. E. Leroux, the sculptor, will exhibit a seated statue of 'Rachel,' the model of which was at the *Salon* of 1877. M. Baudry has in hand a large symbolical composition styled 'La Loi,' which is destined for the Cour de Cassation. M. Lapos-tolet will send a large view of the port of Rouen. M. J. Benner will furnish two pictures, one of which is called 'Il Monte Solar, une Maison à Capri.' M. Delobbe's subject is 'La Famille aux Champs'; M. Moreau de Tours's is 'Sacrifice de la Famille à la Patrie,' commissioned for the Mairie of the second Arrondissement. The French artists have now the management of the *Salon* in their own hands.

THE pictures of the late Prince Frederick of Hohenzollern-Hechingen, now in the possession of his eldest son, Count Frederick of Rothenburg, are to be sold by auction at Munich. Among the masters said to be represented in the collection are Andrea del Sarto, Ghirlandajo, Hobbema, Ruysdael, Ph. Wouwermans, &c.

MR. DENNIS, H.M. Consul at Smyrna, is busy with his excavations at Sardis, which we have already mentioned, and M. S. Ramanac, pupil of the French School at Athens, has been sent by the French Government to excavate at

Ali Aga Chiftligui, the ancient Gryniun. Mr. J. T. Wood is engaged in endeavouring to raise a subscription to carry out further explorations at Ephesus.

By the removal of the toll-houses from Waterloo Bridge some admirable, although small, specimens of architectural fitness and good design have been lost to the metropolis. They have been more fortunate than the Temple fountain, which has undergone a lamentable transmutation.

As every one expected, M. Bonnat has been elected to the vacant place in the Académie des Beaux-Arts.

THE French journals record the death, on the 1st of this month and in the sixty-eighth year of his age, of M. Léopold Double, the distinguished amateur and possessor of one of the finest and most select galleries of works of art in private hands. Among these are the rare 'Jeune Fille et Cavalier,' by Ver Meer, of Delft, two fine Clouets, a vigorous Frank Hals, 'Portrait d'Homme,' and Rembrandt's 'Portrait d'Homme riant.'

THE death of M. Victor Calliat, formerly inspector of the works at the Hôtel de Ville, engraver as well as architect, is recorded.

OUR learned Correspondent, Dr. Bode, has discovered in the magazine of the Berlin Gallery a painting representing Jean Cuspinianus, his wife and two children, on the back of which is an inscription to the effect that it is the work of B. Strigel, of Memmingen, who produced the fine portraits of Maximilian I. and his family which are in the Belvedere at Vienna, and, as Dr. Bode thinks, many portraits which, in Germany and Austria, bear the name of Holbein.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concert.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Mr. Charles Halle's Orchestral Concerts. The Popular Concerts.

AFTER the customary suspension during the Christmas holidays, the Saturday Concerts at the Crystal Palace were resumed last week, when a series of performances was commenced which will be of special musical interest. We refer to the first performance in chronological order of the entire series of Franz Schubert's symphonies, eight in number, including the unfinished one in B minor. Of these two at least (the first and third) have never before been heard at the Crystal Palace, and in all probability have never before been played at all. Only two of Schubert's symphonies are published—those in B minor and C major, Nos. 8 and 9; No. 7 is only a sketch, in too incomplete a condition to admit of performance, and the first six still remain in manuscript. Through the kindness of the possessors of the autographs in Vienna, copies have been allowed to be taken for the use of the Crystal Palace Company, and it has thus become possible to present to the audience of the Saturday Concerts the complete series, as has been already done more than once with the symphonies of Beethoven.

Of the whole of Schubert's symphonies only the last two belong to his ripest period. The first six were composed between the years 1813 and 1818, when their author was almost a boy, he being in his seventeenth year when the first was written and only just twenty-one when he completed the sixth. Those, therefore, who follow the development of his genius as illustrated by the successive performances of these works must not expect to find such rapid progress as is

seen, for instance, between the second and third symphonies of Beethoven. The earlier symphonies of Schubert are written for the most part under the influence of Mozart and Haydn; and although we shall meet with distinct traces of their composer's individuality, such traces are far less pronounced in his instrumental works than in the vocal works of the same period. Schubert's genius appears first to have asserted itself within the smaller limits of the Lied, and to have only later reached its maturity in the larger instrumental forms. All his finest sonatas, quartets, and symphonies, were composed in the last ten years of his life.

The first symphony, performed for the first time on Saturday, which was completed, according to the date on the autograph, on October 28th, 1813, is in the key of D major. It is scored for full orchestra without trombones, but (like Beethoven's Symphony in B flat) with only one flute. It contains the customary four movements, the first *allegro* being preceded by a short introduction, and as regards its form it differs in no respect from the symphonies of Mozart and Haydn. A ceaseless flow of melody pervades the entire work, but the themes in general have little of their composer's individuality, and in at least one instance we meet with a distinct reminiscence—the second subject of the first movement being strongly suggestive of a passage in the *finale* to the 'Eroica.' It is in the orchestration that the most originality is to be found; here, even in the work of a boy of sixteen, we meet with foreshadowings of that exquisite treatment of the wind instruments which imparts such special charm to the 'Rosamunde' music, and to the symphonies in B minor and C major. On the whole the chief interest of this first symphony is historical. It is well that an opportunity should have been afforded of judging of Schubert's starting-point, but it is doubtful whether, merely on its own merits, the work will take its place as a permanent addition to the concert *répertoire*.

Mr. Eugène d'Albert, the young pianist of whom we have more than once had occasion to speak favourably, made his first appearance at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, performing Schumann's Concerto with a correctness, an amount of expression, and an artistic style, which more than fulfilled the anticipations previously formed. If not spoiled by success, the young gentleman has a great future before him. Two pleasing pieces by Heinrich Hofmann, from 'An Italian Love Story,' originally written as pianoforte duets, and subsequently scored for orchestra, and the Overture to 'Der Freischütz,' were the remaining orchestral numbers of this concert. Mr. Santley was the vocalist.

There was no feature of special interest in the programme of Mr. Halle's first orchestral concert on Saturday, and this may account, in some measure, for the slender attendance. Goldmark's so-called symphony, 'Die Landliche Hochzeit,' is not a work about which musicians are likely to feel a large amount of enthusiasm. There is a great deal of clever writing in the "Wedding March, with Variations," the "Serenade" is pretty, and the scene "In the Garden" appropriately sentimental. But the music never rises to symphonic importance, and musicians have

a right to complain when the title of symphony is given to a work in which all the recognized laws of form are disregarded. The performance of 'Die Ländliche Hochzeit' was admirable, as was that of the overture to 'Oberon,' and the *andantino* from Spohr's 'Die Weihe der Töne,' but Beethoven's Symphony in c minor might have been better played. There was no vocal music.

Another work of Herr Goldmark was performed at the Saturday Popular Concert, namely, the Suite, Op. 11, for pianoforte and violin. This is, on the whole, a more favourable example of his talent than the more ambitious 'Ländliche Hochzeit' Symphony. The themes are for the most part attractive, and the treatment is natural and unlaboured. Like the symphony, the work is in five movements, all more or less independent in construction, and it is only fair to presume that the composer finds the established laws of form irksome to the free exercise of his imagination. The pianist on Saturday and also on Monday was Herr Ignaz Brüll, a musician perhaps best known in this country by his comic opera 'The Golden Cross,' produced in English by Mr. Carl Rosa three years ago. As a pianist Herr Brüll can scarcely lay claim to the foremost rank, though he is a thoroughly sound and conscientious executant. On Saturday he played three of Chopin's Études, and on Monday the same composer's Barcarolle, Op. 60, with irreproachable fluency and neatness; but there was nothing suggestive or impressive in his execution, and it was open to the charge of tameness. A Pianoforte Trio in e flat, Op. 14, from the pen of Herr Ignaz Brüll, was introduced on Monday, but the effect it created was not great. The defects we have to note so frequently in the works of contemporary German composers—obscurity of outline, over-elaboration, and excessive length—are certainly not among the shortcomings of this trio, which is, indeed, almost infantile in its simplicity. The four movements of which it consists are all brief, symmetrical, and unpretentious to the last degree, but we fear that these negative good qualities are the best we can assign to the work. The music ambles along without ever giving offence, but at the conclusion the listener finds he has gained nothing. Verdi's Quartet in e minor was performed for the third time at these concerts. This work is unequal, the first and last movements having but little interest, while the second and third are more spontaneous and attractive. The work as a whole, however, is scarcely likely to maintain an equal place with the Manzoni Requiem, 'Rigoletto,' and 'Aida.' The remainder of Saturday's and Monday's programmes may be dismissed without remark.

### Musical Gossip.

MR. SIMS REEVES gave a Ballad Concert at St. James's Hall on Tuesday evening, at which Miss Minnie Hawk, Miss Helen D'Alton, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Herbert Reeves, Mr. Arthur Oswald, Mr. Jacques Blumenthal, Mr. Sydney Smith, and the London Vocal Union were announced to take part.

MR. C. VILLIERS STANFORD's opera, 'The Veiled Prophet of Khorassan,' was produced at

Hanover on the 6th inst., we are most happy to be able to add with complete success.

THE annual orchestral festival at Edinburgh, which, under the management of Sir Herbert Oakeley, has developed out of the Reid Concert, is now being held. From the programmes which have been forwarded to us, we learn that the first of two orchestral concerts by Mr. Charles Halle's band was to be given last night, and the second this afternoon, while the Reid Concert itself is announced for Monday evening. The selection of music is excellent, including three symphonies, six overtures, five concertos, &c. Mlle. Marie Breidenstein and Mr. Joseph Maas are announced as the vocalists, Madame Norman-Néruda as the violinist, while Mr. Charles Halle officiates in the double capacity of solo pianist and conductor.

SOME interest was given to Mr. Dannreuther's Musical Evening, at 12, Orme Square, on Thursday week by the performance for the first time of a Quartet in g minor by Grieg. The examples we have heard from time to time of this Danish musician's skill in composition have generally afforded proof that he possesses a decided vein of individuality, but at the same time that he lacks the equally desirable qualities of breadth of style and a feeling for dignity and consistency in the development of the subject matter. In the g minor Quartet these peculiarities are distinctly felt. There is a wild beauty in several of the themes, and it is impossible to resist the idea that Grieg has availed himself of the rich treasures of Scandinavian Volkslieder in some of his melodies; but the general treatment of each movement is too eccentric and disjointed to leave a perfectly satisfactory impression on the mind. It cannot be too distinctly understood that inventiveness in musical composition may be exhibited as much in the construction of a work as in the creation of a taking melody. The performance of Grieg's Quartet by Messrs. H. Holmes, A. Gibson, Carl Jung, and Lasserre was quite beyond reproach. At the same concert Brahms's Pianoforte Quartet in A, Op. 26, was performed, and Mr. Dannreuther played Beethoven's Sonata in F minor, Op. 57. Miss Annie Butterworth was the vocalist.

THE tenth of Mr. John Boosey's Ballad Concerts was given at St. James's Hall on Wednesday evening.

THE programme of Mr. Stephen S. Stratton's fourth chamber concert, given in the Masonic Hall, Birmingham, last Tuesday week, included Cherubini's String Quartet in e flat; Reinecke's Suite for Piano and Violin, in e minor; Schubert's Fantasia, Op. 15; Mendelssohn's Lied ohne Worte, in d, for piano and violoncello; and C. E. Stephens's Piano Quartet in b minor.

A REVIVAL of Verdi's 'Vesperi Siciliani' is in preparation at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels. The principal parts are to be sustained by Madame Fursch-Madier and M. Sylva.

M. SARASATE is at present in Paris, where he proposes to give several concerts with M. Colonne's orchestra.

MISS AGNES ZIMMERMANN has again distinguished herself at Leipzig by her performance at a Gewandhaus Concert of Rubinstein's c major Concerto. The press, while receiving the composition with qualified approbation, has shown no hesitation in applauding those admirable qualities in her playing for which she is so highly esteemed in this country. Her playing in a quartet concert and performance to the students of the Conservatoire of Mendelssohn's c minor Trio (with Herrn Schradieck and Schröder) were no less favourably received. A subsequent visit to Berlin, where Miss Zimmermann played a long programme to the Crown Prince and Princess, has brought her tour in Germany this winter to a close.

THE new-opera house at Caracas, in Venezuela,

erected under the auspices of Señor Guzman Blanco, the President, and dedicated to him under the title of Teatro Guzman Blanco, was inaugurated by him on New Year's Day. The Italian Opera Company played the 'Trovatore,' with a new English soprano, Miss Cripps, as Leonora, who was received with applause by the Caracans.

### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

PRINCE OF WALES's.—'The Colonel,' a Farce Comedy in Three Acts. By F. C. Burnand.  
HAYMARKET.—Revival of 'Masks and Faces,' a Comedy in Three Acts. By Tom Taylor and Charles Reade.  
GAIETY (Matinée).—'The Good-natured Man.' By Oliver Goldsmith. Reduced into Three Acts.

IN converting into 'The Colonel' 'Le Mari à la Campagne' of Bayard and Wailly, Mr. Burnand has met with a success beyond his deserts. So true, so direct, and so needed is the satire against hypocrisy and cant which underlies the French original, that we feel aggrieved when its direction is changed. To employ against a harmless and preposterous form of frivolity the machinery intended for the upheaval of the most common and dangerous form of imposture is like bringing forth arms of precision to shoot bluebottles. With such ability, however, has Mr. Burnand executed his strange task, that our admiration is enforced in our own despite. So amusing is the new piece, it may fairly be ranked as Mr. Burnand's masterpiece in the dramatic line, which is very far from being his best line. Not that it is in any sense dramatic. Mr. Burnand's jokes—very admirable jokes some of them are—have nothing whatever to do with the plot or the characters. None the less their approach is heralded with a smile and their arrival is greeted with a guffaw. Strange as such an assertion may seem, in their non-dramatic quality is found the secret of their success. One of the first of humourists, Mr. Burnand, when he endeavours to assign dramatic point to his witticisms, is cramped by his self-imposed restraints. He is like a nimble dancer wearing fetters. In 'The Colonel' he pours forth unchecked a string of his own happy thoughts with an occasional happy thought which is not his own, and his audience is enchanted. Character! what has he to do with that? Mr. Coghlan has come back from America, and his maligners, and some even who can scarcely be regarded as such, say he has caught an American accent. Happy thought! the character assigned him shall be an American. In a like spirit of lighthearted, insolent drollery, Mr. Burnand has proceeded, and he has scored a brilliant success. A plot which is utterly inconceivable, except on the supposition that the characters are lunatics, amuses; a *dénouement* which is no *dénouement* contents. Nobody feels dissatisfaction with Mr. Burnand's proceedings, nor complains of the reception awarded them by the public. 'The Colonel' is more amusing than 'Where's the Cat?' and far more decorous. It is full of animal spirits and good nature, and the veriest zealot in the cause of the æsthetic and the intense will derive amusement from its banter. It is, in short, a number of *Punch* put into dialogue. As regards the acting there is nothing to say. Mr. Coghlan looked and talked like a quiet and very sensible Ame-

rican gentleman; Mr. Fernandez posed for a preacher of art and looked like a decayed pianoforte tuner; Mrs. Leigh Murray wore a most amusing wig; and Miss C. Grahame, after expressing her dislike of a quaint and absurd costume in which she looked bewitching, donned another wholly to her own taste, in which she looked a dowdy. Such is the spectacle to which London is flocking and is likely to flock.

'Masks and Faces' was played by Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft during the late years of their tenancy of the Prince of Wales's Theatre. It has now been produced at the Haymarket. Some clever acting, occasionally of a rather amateurish character, is exhibited, and a spectacle such as has not previously been seen is put upon the stage. It is but just to recognize the service to art which is rendered in the case of a production like the present. Whatever may be the worth of the result, more care and intelligence than were ever brought previously to bear upon dramatic representations are now employed. Each detail of costume, each item of get-up, is considered with scrupulous attention, and the picture presented is, from the archaeological standpoint, to be tried. Against this method of procedure it is urged that the play is not seldom buried beneath upholstery and similar matters. When the poetic worth of a play is its chief recommendation, this charge may perhaps be just. There would, at least, be little satisfaction to a worshipper of Shelley to see 'The Cenci' brought on the stage as a means of supplying a series of Italian decorations. In the case of a comedy of intrigue, which in a sense 'Masks and Faces' is, it cannot be said that the interest or the enjoyment of the spectator is impaired by the richness and beauty of the costumes. There is, on the contrary, an enhancement of the pleasure to be derived. Mr. Arthur Cecil's thoughtful and excellent representation of Colley Cibber gains rather than loses when the dress of that most egregious and delightful of coxcombs is presented with assumable accuracy. Very pleasant is it to see a picture such as Mr. Conway exhibits when, with his snuff-box in his hand, he stands in his silk coat with its wadded skirts to watch the result of his plots. The obstinate pigtail of Snarl and the plastered locks of Soaper have so much truth and individuality, they reconcile the spectator to the fact that the characters are impossible. Peg Woffington's rich robes add to her fascination, and the beautiful travelling dress and hood in which Mabel Vane envelopes her sweet face increase our interest in her fortune. In France the same movement prevails that is seen in England, and a performance at the Théâtre Français is studied as that at the Haymarket has been studied. To the Hon. Lewis Wingfield the fidelity of the tableaux is attributable, and the manner in which he has accomplished his task will secure him a name in stage annals. The principal feature in the performance, the Peg Woffington of Mrs. Bancroft, has already been described. This has lost nothing of its brightness and vivacity. Miss Marion Terry, rapidly improving in style and obtaining command of a very touching and sympathetic method, played the heroine in excellent style. Mr. Ban-

croft, who is acquiring the mastery over mannerisms, struck as Triplet the right note, which some of his most renowned predecessors failed to hit. Mr. Cecil gave a striking picture of Colley Cibber, and Mr. Conway's Sir Charles Pomander was admirably insolent. Mr. Dacre, one of the youngest actors on the stage, was successful as Ernest Vane; and Mr. Kemble, Mr. Brookfield, Mr. Stewart Dawson, and Mr. Smedley formed parts of a cast such as a few years ago could not have been obtained.

It is pleasant to see a revival of Goldsmith's 'Good-natured Man' such as Miss Litton has supplied at the Gaiety Matinées. All but unknown so far as the stage is concerned is this clever but ill-starred comedy, which seems from the first to have provoked the ill-will of one at least of its fairy godmothers. The cast supplied may be regarded as moderate, the best features in it being the Miss Richland of Miss Litton, which has a true ring of old comedy, and the Croaker of Mr. Lionel Brough, which is broadly comic. Mr. Barnes, however, fails to show the special quality in Honeywood, which is that his moods are evanescent. A stereotyped smile of good nature sat upon Mr. Barnes's face, and the appellation of the "good-natured man" was accordingly justified. That indecision, however, which makes Honeywood immediately participate in the emotions, whatever they are, of those with whom he is thrown into contact was not shown, and the performance was weak. Mr. Everill cannot be considered a satisfactory Lofty, dapperness rather than assumed dignity being the chief characteristic. Miss Maria Harris is a good *soubrette*, and Miss Cresswell an agreeable Olivia. The Mrs. Croaker of Mrs. Leigh and Mr. Edgar's Bailiff are also praiseworthy.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

A VERSION of 'Le Gentilhomme Pauvre' of Dumanoir and Lafargue has been given at the Criterion, under the title of 'Brave Hearts.' Mr. Beerbohm Tree acts carefully but nervously as the old Marquis, a character in which, in a previous version twenty years ago at the St. James's, Alfred Wigan was successful. The original was created by M. Lafontaine. Miss Rorke played the heroine and Mrs. Alfred Mellon the good-natured woman who comes to her rescue. Mr. Giddens acted cleverly in a small part of a servant.

A NEW drop scene painted by Mr. Calcott for the Alhambra Theatre presents a picturesque landscape and mediæval city in Calabria. The figures, which are by Mr. John Absolon, are curious and interesting, as showing some of the principal types in the Italian pantomime, out of which sprang the pantomime of France and England.

A PERFORMANCE of 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' given at the Adelphi on Wednesday morning, was noteworthy for a remarkable display of capacity by Mr. Vezin as Mr. Ford. The Mrs. Ford of Mrs. Arthur Sterling, the Dr. Caius of Mr. Horace Wigan, and the Pistol of Mr. McIntyre were also excellent. Mr. Henry Murray's Falstaff was amateurish, but not without promise. The entire representation had more interest than was to be expected under the circumstances. The omission of some of the best scenes cannot, however, be justified.

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